

# ANDROID

ISSUE  
**17**

**MEET  
THE NEW  
SAMSUNG**

# ADVISOR



## HANDS-ON WITH THE S6 EDGE+ & GALAXY TAB S2



**Note 5**  
not for the UK - or is it?

# Welcome...

It's been a bumper month for new Android hardware. First came the unbelievably good OnePlus 2, which builds in new technologies such as USB Type-C, has some impressive hardware and still costs less than half the price of flagships. You can read more about the OP2 on page 18, and look out for our full review in the next issue.

Another phone we'll be reviewing next issue is the new Moto G, which was unveiled alongside the Moto X Play and Moto X Style. All three now come with Moto Maker. Read about the new Motos on page 8.

Samsung was set to steal the show with the launch of its Note 5 in mid-August, but Xiaomi got in there first with two new Notes (see page 27). And lucky it did, because there was no word of the new Note 5 at Samsung's UK Unpacked event. Instead, we got the Tab S2 and gorgeous new S6 Edge+. You can read our first-look hands-ons of both from page 33, or turn to page 30 to see what we're missing in the new Note 5 - or perhaps not, as we explain how us Brits might still be able to get hold of one.

It's not all good news for Android fans, though, with the OS hitting the headlines for all the wrong reasons. On page 87 we explain how to protect yourself from Stagefright, a vulnerability within Android that could allow a hacker to take over your phone with a single MMS message.

As always, we hope you've enjoyed this issue of Android Advisor. Feel free to send us your feedback via [facebook.com/AndroidAdvisorUK](https://facebook.com/AndroidAdvisorUK) or email [marie\\_brewis@idg.co.uk](mailto:marie_brewis@idg.co.uk).



# Google Alphabet FAQ: What it means for you

Google is not dead, but there are many more letters in the alphabet than G. We've got the A-Z on Alphabet

**G**oogle has a new parent company, Alphabet. But what exactly does Google Alphabet mean for you?

What's the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the name 'Google'? Most likely, you'll visualise the search engine that pops up as your browser's home page. That's not surprising, given that Google was born in 1998 as a research tool that brought order to the huge amount of info available on the web, making it easier to find specific data.

But Google is much more than a search engine company, and co-founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page's dreams are bigger than the web. They want to expand their views, invest in research, bring about new inventions and contribute to human progress.



Many investors and customers might wonder why a search engine company is interested in making smart contact lenses, for example. However, with the creation of a new umbrella company, Alphabet, Brin and Page's dream might become true.

Rather than Google owning lots of little companies that have little in common with each other, a slimmed down Google will sit alongside those companies as a wholly owned subsidiary of new parent company Alphabet. Alphabet will be headed up by Brin and Page, as President and CEO respectively, while Sundar Pichai will take over as CEO of Google.

Alphabet will gather innovative ventures that focus on development and new technologies. The companies will finally be free from Google's search stigma, and the co-founders will be able to manage more effectively the disparate areas.

### **What will Alphabet do?**

Alphabet is going to allow Google's co-founders to realise their ambitions. Page and Brin want to explore innovative sectors, leaving a mark in human history, and Alphabet will be their control tower.

The company will host a constellation of ventures, whose focus spans from lenses to drones. All will share a common goal: to improve our lives.

## **How can Alphabet improve our lives?**

- Self-driving cars:** Google's autonomous vehicles are still being tested. When available, they are expected to be fundamental in reducing traffic-and car accidents.

- Delivery-drones for disaster relief:** Google is testing autonomous aerial vehicles. The so-called Project Wing aims at developing drones that could deliver goods, such as medicines, in areas hit by war or natural disasters.

- Robots:** Through sub-company Boston Dynamic, Alphabet plans to develop cutting-edge robots.

- Life extension:** Created by Google in 2013, Calico is Google's Life Extension Project. It is aimed at combating age-related diseases and investing in drug development and innovative therapies.



- Artificial intelligence:** DeepMind, purchased by Google in 2013, is a company that aims to create 'learning algorithms', a man-made intelligence that could be applied to machines and used to get a deeper understanding of the human mind.

- Exploration:** Google Earth gives you a virtual image of the globe.

It lets you navigate around the world without needing to leave your computer, but it is also useful to get directions, plan trips, locate public areas and get an up-to-date image of areas hit by hazards.

- **Super-fast internet:** Google Fiber provides high-speed internet and cable TV in many US cities. Its internet connection operates at 1Gb/s, allowing you to download a movie in less than two minutes.

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**Google is still alive and it will  
remain so for many years**

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- **Intelligent (smart) glasses:** Google Glass, a wearable device with an interactive display, was first released in 2013, but it was considered a failure due to its price and scarce availability. Now the company is developing a second version of its smart glasses.

- **Fight oppression:** Google Ideas is a think tank that uses technology to solve problems faced by people who live in situations of conflict or repression.

- **Virtual reality cameras:** In collaboration with GoPro, Alphabet will develop Jump, a 360-camera rig that records virtual-reality videos.

- **Measure glucose levels:** Life Science is a division of Google X that researches technological advancements within the life-science field. Google

Contact Lens is one of its main projects. These smart lenses can measure glucose levels for diabetics.

- **Clean energy:** Makani is a company supported by Alphabet that develops wind turbines to access wind at high altitudes and produce clean energy. Makani is a world leader in its sector.

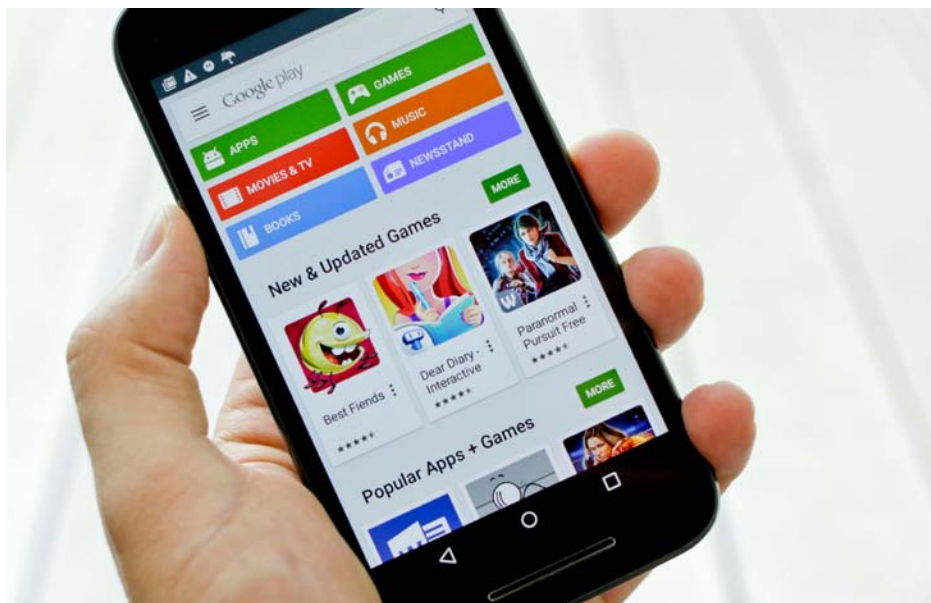
- **Safer homes:** Nest Labs, owned by Alphabet, develops smart thermostats, smoke detectors and other security devices. Nest makes it easier for many people to better control their homes.

- **Internet access for everyone:**  
Project Loon is Alphabet's initiative to create high- altitude balloons that would provide internet access in rural areas. In 2014, Google also bought Titan Aerospace, the aerospace company that produces drones, which could bring internet connectivity to people in remote areas.

## What's left for Google?

Don't worry, Google is still alive and it will remain so for many years. Now a subsidiary of Alphabet, Google will continue to be a search engine. Plus we can expect great improvements, since the company will now focus only on internet-related products. And that can only be a good thing for the end user, who will now (hopefully) benefit from a better service for web research.





## Out now: **Motorola Moto G 3rd-gen**

Motorola has unveiled yet another Moto G, and this looks to be its best yet

**M**otorola has unveiled three new Moto phones: the Moto X Style, Moto X Play and new Moto G. Here we reveal all there is to know about the new Moto G (third-generation). Keep your eyes peeled in the next issue of Android Advisor for our full Moto G review.

The new Moto G went on sale on 28 July in 60 countries. It has an RRP of £159 from retailers such as Amazon, but prices start at £179 (8GB; £209 for 16GB) on Moto Maker.



## What to expect from the new Moto G

The Moto G is Motorola's most successful phone ever, and it claims an exceptional phone at an exceptional price, delivering on everything customers care about.

Perhaps the biggest news about the new G is that it now comes with Moto Maker, letting you customise your handset and get exactly the Moto G you want. You can also mess around with Moto shells and flip shells after purchase to suit your mood.

Also new for the Moto G is IPX7 waterproof protection, and Motorola's wallet-friendly G will now survive a dunk in water up to 1m.

As before the Moto G is available in black or white, with Motorola's signature curved rear and a new metallic camera surround.

For each of its three new phones Motorola promises best-in-class cameras. At the rear you'll find the same 13Mp camera as on the Nexus 6,

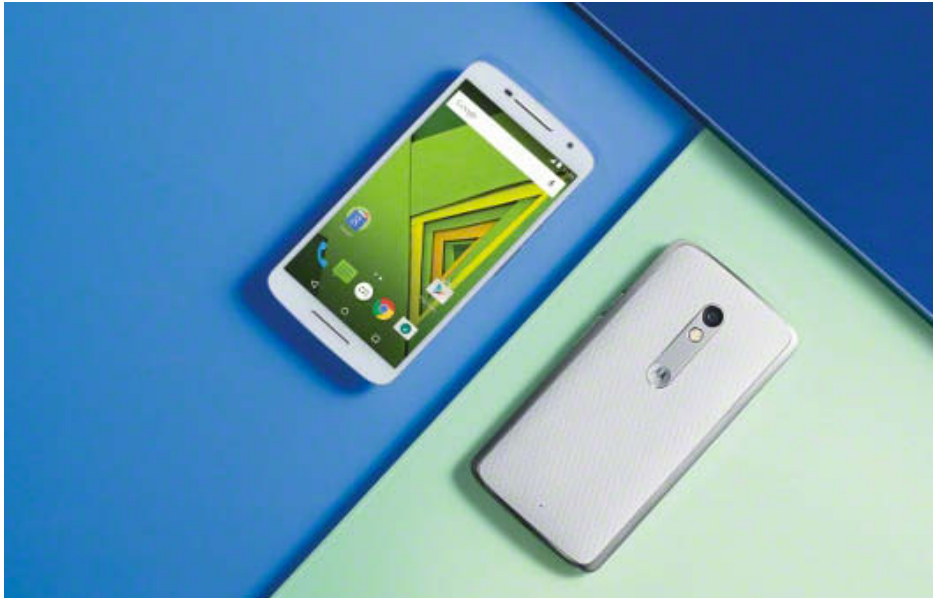


but with several improvements, and a 5Mp selfie camera at the front.

## Specifications

- Android 5.1.1 Lollipop
- Moto Assist, Moto Display, Moto Actions
- 5in HD display
- 1.4GHz Qualcomm Snapdragon 410 quad-core
- 1- or 2GB of RAM
- 8- or 16GB of storage
- MicroSD support up to 32GB
- 4G LTE
- 13Mp f/2.0 main camera with 1080p video, dual-CCT flash, multi-layer IR filter
- 5Mp front camera
- 2470mAh battery with up to 24 hours mixed use
- Moto Maker
- replaceable Colour and Flip Shells
- IPX7 water resistance





## Coming soon: **Moto X Play & Style**

Motorola has launched two Moto X smartphones for 2015. Here's what you need to know about the Style and Play

**F**ollowing on from the excellent second-gen Moto X are not one but two new phones: the Moto X Style and Moto X Play.

Although it has never enjoyed the popularity of flagship phones from other makers, we've always like the Moto X. It was the first phone to allow you to customise it before buying, and was extremely well built. It never had a microSD slot, but now it does!

The Play will available from the end of August 2015. The Style should go on sale in September.

The Moto X Play will cost £299 on Moto Maker, and that's for the base 16GB model with a standard back. If you buy an off-the-shelf version, you'll save £20 as it costs £279. The base Moto X Style will cost £359 on Moto Maker, and may well be available for £339 off the shelf.

## What to expect from the new Moto X

Both new models retain the signature curved back and metal frame of previous Moto X phones. They'll also be customisable via Moto Maker. Both get the new 21Mp camera that we're itching to test out to see how it compares to the best phone cameras.

Motorola says it has faster focus, more light, faster capture and better colour reproduction. Want the tech details? The camera has an f/2.0 aperture and phase-detection autofocus. Stabilisation details are thin on the ground, but only the Moto X Style seems to have stabilisation and only for video. Because





there's no mention of OIS, we're assuming it's done in software. We've asked Motorola to clarify.

Each phone has a dual-LED colour balancing flash and a wide-angle selfie lens on the front camera, which has a 5Mp sensor. Photo modes include: panorama, slow motion, burst, night and auto-HDR.

And thanks to what Motorola is calling 'tubo charging' the phones recharge faster, too. In just 15 minutes, they will charge up to one-third, offering around 10 hours of use.

What's missing is a fingerprint scanner, meaning that unless Motorola simply hasn't mentioned it, the new Moto Xs probably won't work with Google Pay. (There's been no confirmation yet that the service will require a fingerprint scanner for authentication.) There was also no mention of a dual-SIM model.

Most disappointing for some is the absence of AMOLED displays. The new Moto X models have IPS LCD screens.



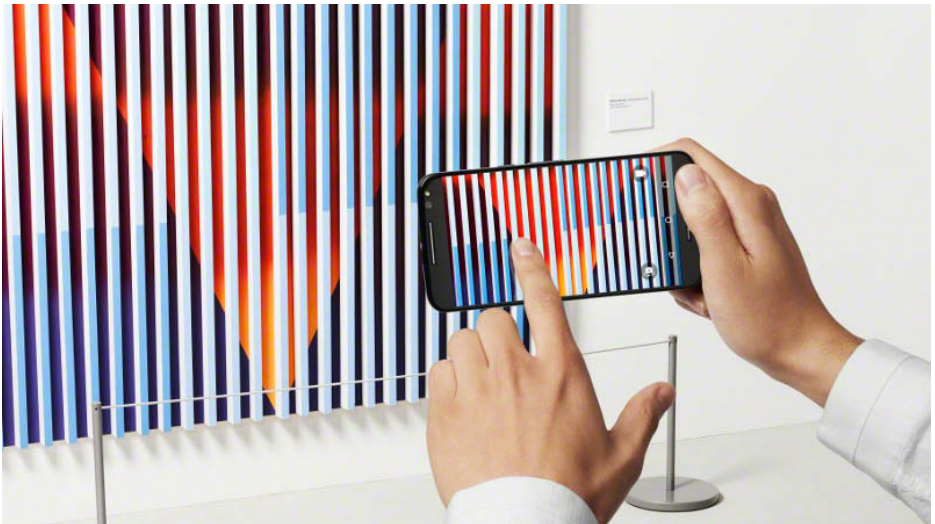
## Moto X Style

The Style has the larger screen. At 5.7in the display is larger than an iPhone 6 Plus' yet in a physically smaller body. Motorola says the Syle has a 76 percent screen-to-body ratio, and the phone still has front-facing stereo speakers.

One of the rear coverings is a new coated silicon soft-grip rubber. It's specially formulated to resist discolouration. Leather and wooden backs are offered once again at a higher cost. There's now a choice between three different machined metal frames - something not on offer with the Moto X Play.

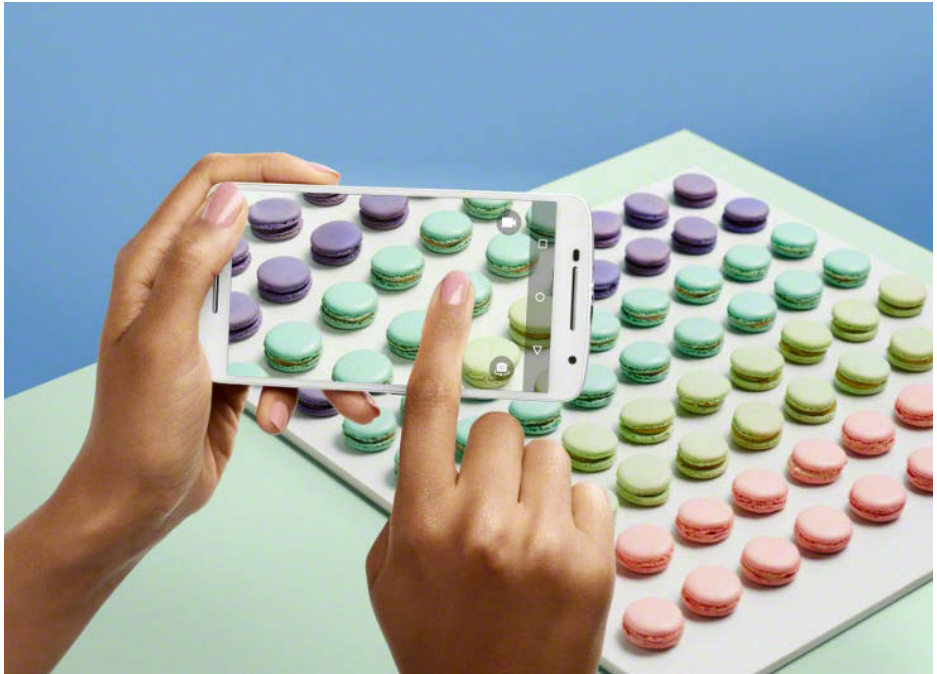
The new coating is certified as IP52, meaning it's water repellant and can withstand the odd splash, spill or "light rain". It can't - unlike the new Moto G - be submersed in water.

The camera is also better than the Play's. The Style can shoot stabilised video in 4K at 30fps, and also does HDR video at 1080p and 4K.





- OS: Android 5.1.1
- Screen: 5.7in Quad HD 2560x1440, 520ppi
- Processor: 1.8GHz Snapdragon 808 (hexacore)
- Graphics: Adreno 418
- RAM: 3GB
- Storage: 32GB or 64GB, plus 128GB via microSD
- Cameras: 21Mp rear, 5Mp front
- Video capture: 1080p (60fps); 4K (30fps)
- Battery: 3000mAh
- Dimensions: 154x76x11mm
- Weight: 179g
- SIM: Nano-SIM
- Bluetooth 4.1
- 802.11a/g/b/n/ac + MIMO
- NFC, GPS



## Moto X Play

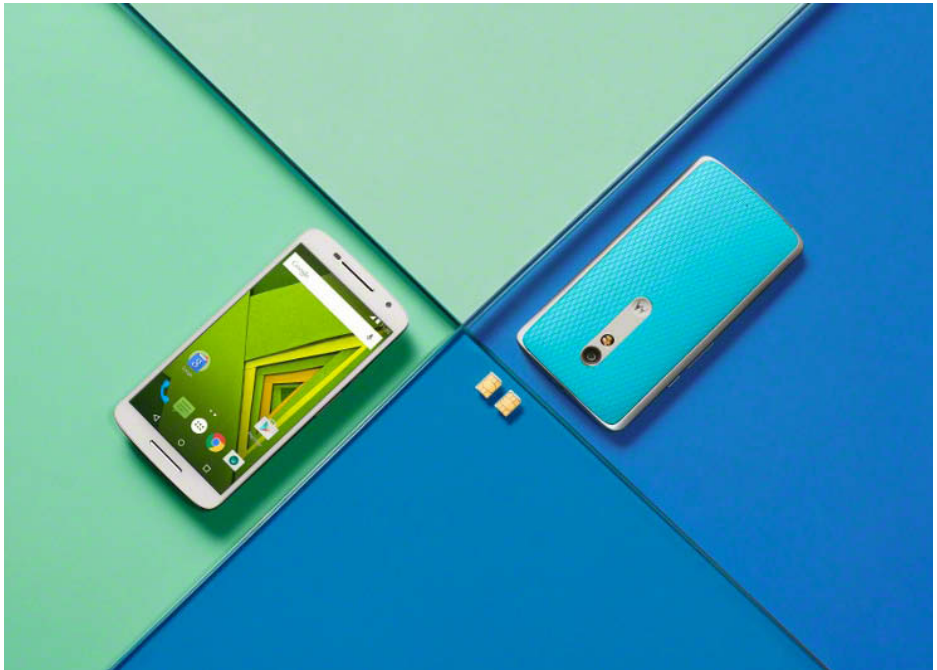
This is where the leaked info of a 3630mAh battery comes in. The Play model has a non-removable battery that should easily last two full days between charges. It's 42 percent more capacity than the Samsung Galaxy S6.

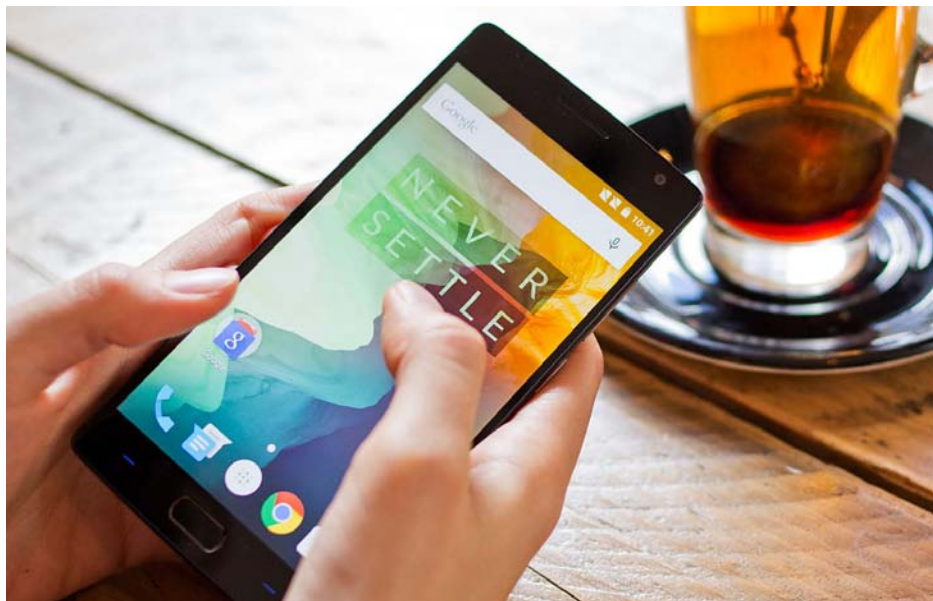
It has a smaller 5.5in Full HD screen, as well as a less-powerful processor. In fact, it's a lesser phone all round, discounting the battery. Internal storage is smaller, there's no support for 802.11ac Wi-Fi and only a single front-facing speaker.

There's still a choice of 14 different backs (four fewer than the Style) and the same seven accent colours. Base models consist of black with black back or white with winter white back.



- OS: Android 5.1.1
- Screen: 5.5in Full HD 1920x1080, 403ppi
- Processor: 1.7GHz Snapdragon 615 (octacore)
- Graphics: Adreno 405
- RAM: 2GB
- Storage: 16GB or 32GB, plus 128GB via microSD
- Cameras: 21Mp rear, 5Mp front
- Video capture: 1080p HD, 30fps (MPEG4, H.264)
- Battery: 3630mAh
- Dimensions: 148x75x11mm
- Weight: 169g
- SIM: Nano-SIM
- Bluetooth 4.0
- 802.11a/g/b/n (dual band)
- NFC, GPS





## Out now: OnePlus 2

The OnePlus 2 is a super deal at £239. It's on sale now - even if you don't have an invitation

It's been a little over a year since the OnePlus One was announced and now the Chinese smartphone maker which took the market by storm is back with a second-generation smartphone to take on the iPhone 6, Samsung Galaxy S6, HTC One M9, Sony Xperia Z3+, LG G4 and others.

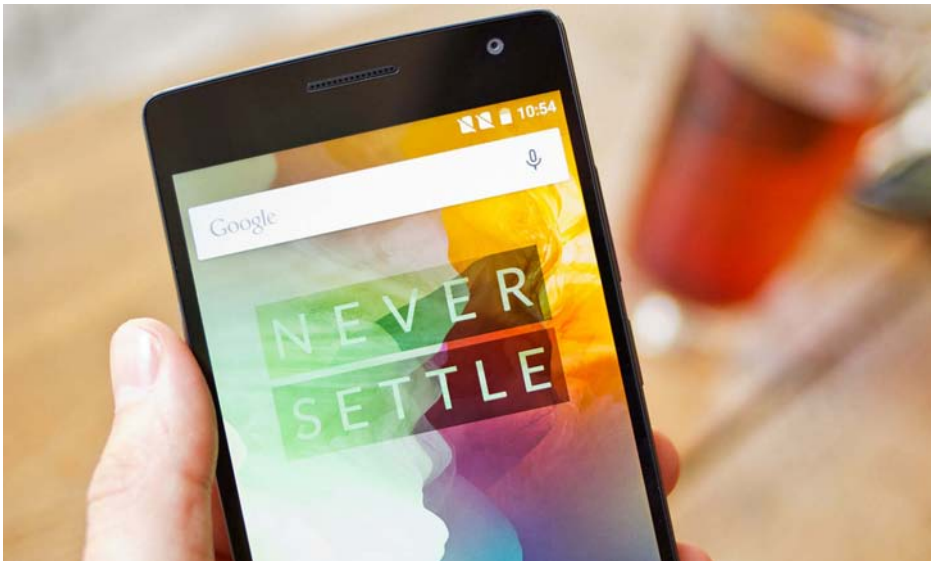
The OnePlus 2 was announced on 27 July via a virtual reality app, making it the world's first product launch to be broadcast in VR. We've got all the juicy details on the OnePlus 2.

Keep your eyes peeled in the next issue of Android Advisor for our full OnePlus 2 review.

On sale from 11 August in the US, Europe and India, the 16GB model costs just £239 and you'll pay £289 for 64GB.

To clarify, that's a little more expensive than the OnePlus One when it launched at £229 and £269 respectively, but this is because of the 'more premium build quality and feature set of the OnePlus 2', according to OnePlus.

The OnePlus 2 is once again available in the familiar Sandstone Black. However, other panaches are available in the form of OnePlus 2 StyleSwap Covers. These will come in Bamboo, Rosewood, Black Apricot and Kevlar. The system means you can swap covers quickly and without tools. No matter which StyleSwap cover you choose, it will add £19.98 to your order.





## How to buy the OnePlus 2

As before you'll need an invite in order to buy the OnePlus 2 direct from the company. There are more invites available than last year as well as a new reservation system.

There are ways and means to get hold of the OnePlus 2 without an invite if obtaining one proves difficult, of course. Geekbuying now has stocks of the 64GB Sandstone Black OnePlus 2, which you can pre-order now but will pay a slight premium on - £316.34 against the RRP of £289. In our book an extra £27 is worth it if it means avoiding the hassle of securing an invitation to buy the OnePlus 2, and the phone is still amazing value even at £316.

## Specification and features

Before the launch we learned that the OnePlus 2 would have a Qualcomm Snapdragon 810 processor (version 2.1), a fingerprint scanner, 4GB of RAM and reversible Type-C USB. Here's what else is new.

**Storage and memory:** Although OnePlus announced that the OnePlus 2 will have 4GB of RAM, this is not the case for both models. You'll need to buy the 64GB capacity because the 16GB OnePlus 2 comes with 3GB of RAM instead.

**Screen:** The display on the OnePlus 2 remains at 5.5in with a full-HD resolution (1080x1920). The firm has said it's an IPS panel with a 178-degree viewing angle and a brightness of 600nits, which compares well to the 559nits of the iPhone 6.

**Cameras:** The rear camera remains at 13Mp and still has the dual-LED flash. The firm says it has an f/2 aperture, 1.3µm pixels and six lenses to avoid distortion and colour aberration. Other features include optical image stabilisation (OIS), a laser auto focus (under 0.3 second) and 4K video recording. Support for shooting in RAW will also be added via a software update 'shortly after launch'.





At the front, there's still a 5Mp camera which is wide-angle to fit as much into a selfie as possible.

**Fingerprint scanner:** We knew about the fingerprint scanner but here are some more details on it. For starters it resides in a new physical home button located below the screen like the Galaxy S6. OnePlus says you can use it to unlock the phone faster than the iPhone in under 0.5 seconds. It also supports up to five prints.

**Alert Slider:** A new feature of the OnePlus 2 is the Alert Slider which you'll find on the left side of the device. This has three positions so you can quickly switch between different notification profiles: None (all notifications apart from alarms), Priority (only allows notifications from priority contacts) and All (allows any notification).

**Connectivity:** The OnePlus 2 comes with dual-band 802.11ac Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.1, GPS, 4G LTE, dual



Nano-SIM slots and a digital compass. The Type-C USB port means you can plug in the cable either way round (like Apple's Lightning cable) but OnePlus has also used patented technology so you can plug an existing Type-A cable in whichever way you like, too. The supplied cable is reversible at both ends, not just at the phone.

**Battery:** One of the last hardware components to mention is the battery. At 3300mAh it's a little larger than that inside the OnePlus One, which has a 3100mAh battery.

**Dimensions:** With a similar size and shape to the OnePlus One, the OnePlus 2 is similar on the dimensions front, now 152x75x9.85mm and 175g compared to 153x76x8.9mm and 162g.

**Oxygen OS and software:** The OnePlus 2 is preloaded with the firm's own OxygenOS, which is based on Android 5.1 Lollipop. It's "light, powerful,



and customisable. We've kept the best of the pure Android experience and enhanced it with thoughtful features and optimisations," says OnePlus.

Oxygen OS features a dark mode, customisable accent colours, custom LED notifications, access to app permissions, SwiftKey and an Audio Tuner that includes a graphic EQ. The software also includes off-screen gestures, which allow you to double-tap the screen to wake it, draw an 'O' to launch the camera or a 'V' to switch on and off the flashlight.

Shelf is a new feature in Oxygen OS that is a space for you to "keep, organise and discover the things you care about". The optional feature is accessed by swiping to the right of the homescreen and contains default widgets displaying your most used apps and contacts.

- Colour: Sandstone Black
- Dimensions: 151.8x74.9x9.85mm
- Weight: 175g







- OS: OxygenOS based on Android 5.1
- Processor: 64-bit Qualcomm Snapdragon 810 processor with 1.8GHz Octa-core CPUs
- GPU: Adreno 430, 650MHz
- Memory: 3/4GB LP-DDR4, 1333MHz
- Storage: 16/64GB eMMC v5.0
- Sensors: Fingerprint, Accelerometer, Gyroscope, Proximity and Ambient Light
- Battery: Embedded rechargeable 3300mAh LiPo
- Connectivity: GSM: 850, 900, 1800, 1900MHz, WCDMA (EU/India) 1/2/5/8, FDD-LTE (EU/India): 1/3/5/7/8/20
- Wi-Fi: Dual-band 2.4GHz b/g/n and 5GHz a/n/ac
- Bluetooth: Bluetooth 4.1
- Positioning: Internal GPS antenna + GLONASS, Digital Compass
- Ports: USB Type-C, Jack 3.5mm
- Buttons, Power Button, Volume Rockers, Alert Slider
- SIM: 2 slots - Nano SIM (Dual SIM, Dual Standby)
- Screen: 5.5in, IPS full-HD (1920x1080 pixels),

401ppi, Corning Gorilla Glass

- Rear camera: 13Mp, 1.3um, 6 lenses, OIS, Laser Focus, Dual-LED flash, f/2.0
- Front camera: 5Mp distortion-free
- Video: 4K resolution video, Slow Motion: 720p video at 120fps
- Speaker: Bottom-facing speaker
- Microphones: Dual-mic with noise cancellation
- Audio formats: Playback: MP3, AAC, AAC+, eAAC+, WMA (v9 and v10), AMR-NB, AMR-WB, EVRC, QCELP, WAV, FLV, SWF, APE, FLAC, WAV, OGG, Recording: AAC, AMR-NB, AMR-WB, EVRC, QCELP
- Video formats: Playback: HEVC (H.265), H.264, VC-1, MPEG-4, DivX, XcId, H.264, MPEG-2, VP8, MP4, MOV, 3GP, AVI, MKV, RM, RMVB, ASF, WMV, WMA Recording: HEVC (H.265), H.264, MPEG-4, H.263, VP8
- Image formats: Playback: JPEG, PNG, BMP, Output: JPEG





## Out now: Xiaomi Note 2 & Prime

Xiaomi stole Samsung's Note 5 thunder with its own Note launch on 13 August. Here are the details

**S**amsung wasn't the only smartphone manufacturer to announce a new Note on 13 August. Xiaomi has also unveiled the new Redmi Note 2 and Note 2 Prime running the new MIUI 7 operating system.

Xiaomi's Redmi Note 2 and Note 2 Prime went on sale in China on 16 August. Xiaomi phones are not officially available in the UK, but it's likely you will be able to pick one up through a grey-market site.

The new Xiaomi Notes are much cheaper than their closest rivals. Xiaomi has given pricing in



Chinese Yuan- the Note 2 costs 799 (£80) or 899 RMB (£90) depending on whether you have 4G on one or both SIM slots, while the Note 2 Prime costs 999 RMB (£100).

## Features and specifications

A notable feature for both new Xiaomi Notes is that they will run MIUI 7, which is based on Android 5.1 Lollipop and will become available on 19 August. MIUI 7 has several updates from MIUI 6, with new themes and features. You can set assign videos rather than ringtones to contacts, for example, and the gallery now supports face recognition. The Chinese version also has a Mi Roaming app that lets you use a virtual SIM card abroad, paying for your data through Xiaomi.

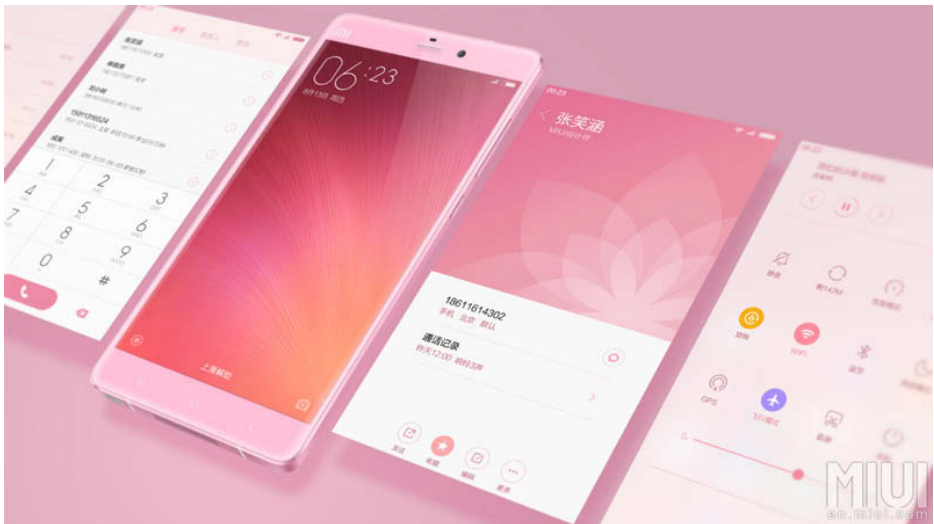
Key differences between the Xiaomi Redmi Note 2 and Note 2 Prime are the amount of flash storage they feature as standard - the Note 2 has 16GB, while the Note 2 Prime has 32GB - and the

processor speed. The Note 2 Prime has a slightly faster-clocked processor at 2.2- rather than 2GHz.

Both phones feature the MediaTek Helio X10 octa-core, 64-bit processor based on the Cortex A-53, with 2GB of LPDDR3 RAM, PowerVR G6200 graphics, a 5.5in full-HD (1920x1080) screen, 802.11ac Wi-Fi and a 3020mAh removable battery with support for Qualcomm Quick Charge 2.0. They are dual-SIM 4G phones, with 13Mp rear- and 5Mp front cameras. From the primary camera's five-element, f/2.2 lens you'll see an ultra-fast 0.1-second focus speed. It also supports phase detection autofocus, usually seen in DSLRs.

The Note 2 measures 152x76x8.25mm and weighs 160g. Measurements for the Note 2 Prime have not been given, although the extra storage may mean it's a little chunkier and heavier.

The Note 2 comes in white, black, pink, brown and light blue.





## Out now: **Samsung Galaxy Note 5**

The new Note 5 isn't officially available in the UK, but that doesn't stop us drooling over it

**T**he new Note 5 was announced in the US on 13 August, but it won't be coming to the UK this year - not officially in any case. Who knows, Samsung could still surprise us with an IFA European launch, just a couple of weeks away.

Samsung's UK Unpacked event focused solely on the new Galaxy S6 Edge+, although we also got the opportunity to spend some time with its new tablet, the Galaxy Tab S2. You can read our hands-ons with each over the following pages.

Whether or not the Samsung Galaxy Note 5 officially comes to the UK or not, you will be able to

buy it from the US and have it shipped over. We've already spoken to Geekbuying and GearBest, neither of which will be stocking the Note 5, so your best bet will be eBay or Amazon. As with any phone you buy from abroad, though, you should check that it is supported by your network.

Obviously, if you or a friend are already planning a trip to the US (it won't be a cost-effective solution if you aren't), you could also pick up a contract-free Note 5 and bring it back to the UK with you.

In the US the Note 5 will be available from 21 August. Pre-orders started on 13 August and, according to PhoneArena, the SIM-free price will be around 800 Euro (£570).

## Specification and features

Samsung's Note 5 promises to be a massively powerful device, with a Samsung Exynos 7420 octa-core 64-bit processor, 4GB of LPDDR4 RAM and either 32- or 64GB of storage.

Measuring 153.2x76.1x7.6mm and weighing 171g, the new Note 5 squeezes in a 5.7in Quad HD (2560x1440, 518ppi) SuperAMOLED screen.







It runs Android Lollipop 5.1, and features LTE Cat 6 connectivity. There's also the latest dual-band 802.11ac Wi-Fi with MIMO, Bluetooth 4.2, NFC and a fingerprint scanner.

A non-removable battery is rated at 3000mAh, but the Samsung Galaxy Note 5 supports sat charging through both wired and wireless chargers. For wireless it supports WPC and PMA.

For photography you'll find 16Mp with optical image stabilisation at the rear, and 5Mp at the front. As with the S6, a double-press of the home button will instantly launch the main camera.

The Note 5, as always, comes with Samsung's S Pen stylus, now redesigned to feel more balanced in the hand and offer improved writing capabilities. You can write down notes while the screen is off, and the Air Command feature is also more intuitive.

Samsung Pay will come to the new Note 5, although a UK release date for that is also unknown. It will launch in Korea on 20 August, and in the US on 28 September.

The Note 5 will be available in White Pearl, Black Sapphire, Gold Platinum and Silver Titanium.





# Hands-on review:

## Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge+

A larger version of the dual-edge Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge, we take a first look at the S6 Edge+

**A**n oversized S6 Edge, the Edge+ was announced by Samsung in mid-August. With the new Note 5 not coming to the UK (at least for now), this is your new large-screen option from Samsung. So how does it stack up?

The original Galaxy S6 Edge was one of the most expensive phones we've ever seen at £680 (launch price) for the cheapest model. We're expecting the larger model to be more expensive, and MobileFun is already taking pre-orders as £699. The S6 Edge+

will go on sale on 4 September with six months free Google Play Music.

## Design and build

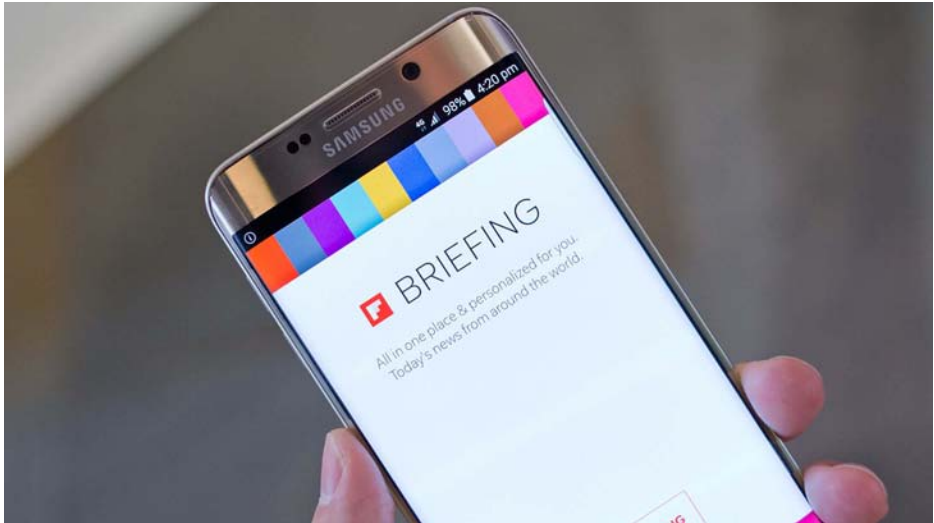
There's not a great deal to say about the design and build of the Galaxy S6 Edge+, since it is really just a bigger version of the current model. It retains the same look and feel, comprising a rounded metal frame and glass front and back.

It's one of the most stylish phones around, but we haven't found the S6 Edge as comfortable to use as the regular Galaxy S6. This is due to the slightly sharp metal that runs down either edge in order to house the curved edges of the screen - this hasn't changed much on the Edge+. It's still thin at 6.9mm, but the Edge+ model being even larger makes it all the more unwieldy.

## Hardware

If you thought a 5.1in screen was a bit small, the Note range is no longer your only large-screen option if





you're a Samsung devotee. The Edge+ features a 5.7in display, which matches that of the new Galaxy Note 5 – it's quickly becoming the standard size for larger phones with the new Huawei Nexus also rumoured to be this big.

The display is still uses Samsung's Super AMOLED technology and uses a Quad HD resolution (1440x2560). This does mean a drop in pixel density from 577- to 518ppi, but we're talking seriously high numbers here so it's still awesomely crisp.

The Galaxy S6 Edge+ is one of a handful of phones announced with 4GB of RAM, which is plenty of memory. On the storage front you might be sad to hear there's still no Micro-SD card slot and the 128GB model has been dropped from the line-up, leaving just 32- and 64GB choices.

Samsung has stuck with the same Exynos 7420 processor, which is unsurprising given that the smaller S6 Edge hasn't been around for long.

The chip is 64-bit, octa-core (quad-core 1.5GHz Cortex-A53 and quad-core 2.1GHz Cortex-A57), plus there's a Mali-T760MP8 GPU. Performance seems just as slick as the Galaxy S6 Edge, but we'll test this properly when we get the S6 Edge+ into our lab.

With such high-end specs on the existing Galaxy S6 models, it's not really a shock that things haven't changed for the Edge+. This means there are still top-notch cameras, with 16Mp at the rear with optical image stabilisation (it still sticks out a few millimetres but is one of the best on any smartphone) and a 5Mp camera at the front.

We didn't think Samsung would drop any of its usual extra features, but while the Galaxy S6 Edge+ has a fingerprint scanner in the home button and a heart rate monitor, the IR blaster has been dropped with the firm promoting new features such as 'Live Broadcast'. (We don't really see the need for this with





apps like Periscope.) There's also 802.11ac Wi-Fi, NFC, Bluetooth 4.1 with aptX, GPS and 4G LTE.

One spec change is a larger battery, since there's room for it inside the bigger chassis. It's increased in capacity from 2600- to 3000mAh. Whether this means an improvement in battery life is another matter, though. Samsung also touts 33 percent faster wireless charging.

With so many specs remaining the same, the key difference here is the screen size (although more memory and a bigger battery are welcome and it's a shame to see the IR blaster gone), so Samsung is delivering for all of you out there with a craving for a larger S6 Edge.

## Software

The Galaxy S6 Edge+ comes preloaded with Android 5.1.1 Lollipop and Samsung's own TouchWiz interface – as you would expect.

We wanted to find out whether Samsung has made any advancements or upgrades with the edge-screen technology. We were somewhat disappointed with the original S6 Edge since you had to choose which side you wanted to use and there was limited functionality.

Unfortunately, not much has changed, but you can position the tab with access the People Edge where is most comfortable on the edge. There's also the added features of accessing your most used apps with via the People Edge.

We were hoping for more.

## Verdict

At £699 the Galaxy S6 Edge+ is a seriously expensive phone, and we were happy enough with the size of the regular model. If you do want a larger version then great, and the increased memory and bigger battery are nice upgrades. However, the IR blaster is gone and the functionality of the edge screen is still gimmicky.





# Hands-on review: Samsung Galaxy Tab S2

Samsung's best-ever tablet just got even better. We get a first look at Samsung's new high-end Tab

**T**he Samsung Galaxy Tab S2 models are the successors to last year's original Galaxy Tab S range, which featured the Galaxy Tab S 8.4 and the Galaxy Tab S 10.5. We thought they were the firm's best-ever tablets, so we had been looking forward to the arrival of the second-generation. We're pleased to say that, so far, they don't disappoint. They're thinner, lighter and more powerful, and it turns out we won't be waiting much longer than the US for them to go on sale.



## Price and availability

The Samsung Galaxy Tab S2 is set to become available to buy in the UK on the 4th September, which coincides with the release of the new Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge+. In the US they're expected this month, so we're pleased to say we haven't got much longer to wait.

We've yet to find out how much the new tablets will cost in the UK, but their predecessors cost £399 and £329 for the large and small model respectively, so we expect the prices for the new models to be similar. That would position them at the top of the tablet market, alongside the £399 iPad Air 2 and £319 iPad mini 3. But if Samsung can bring these tablets to stores at a slightly lower price we think it'll be tricky to recommend buying the iPad over this new entry to the market.







## Design and build

There are two sizes of the Galaxy Tab S 2 available, in a similar move to Apple's iPad range. The smaller model is 8in while the larger flagship model is 9.7in. If you're an Apple fan those sizes might sound familiar, as the iPad mini is 7.9in and the iPad Air is 9.7in. We'll talk a bit more about the screens in a moment, but first let's explore the design and build of the devices.

Both were a delight to hold, and certainly felt on par with Apple's iPad Air and iPad mini in terms of quality and comfort. They're both an incredible 5.6mm thick, and weigh 265g (that's the 8in model) and 389g (that's the 9.7in). That's a whole millimetre thinner than their predecessors, and is also thinner than the 6.1mm iPad Air 2 and even lighter. The Apple flagship weighs 48g more at 437g and you really can feel the difference. The iPad mini 3 is 7.5mm thick and weighs 331g, so there's a big difference between Apple's 8in tablet and Samsung's new offering, too.



We saw both white and black models of each size of the Tab S2 during the Unpacked event, but the only one we can currently see on Samsung's website is a Gold model at the moment. But we expect that it will be available in all three of those colours, again similar to Apple's iPad range which is available in Gold, Silver and Slate Grey.

The back of the tablet is made with plastic, but it manages to look more premium thanks to the metal edges and completely glass front. The only quibble we do have is with the bigger of the two tablets, which has a bit too much bezel around the edges of the display for our liking.

## Display

As mentioned, the screen sizes of the two Tab S models have decreased, a move that's opposite to the way smartphones are heading where bigger seems to be better. With the decrease in size comes

a decrease in pixels, as can be expected. Both have the same resolution, though, down from 2560x1600 to 2048x1536.

Those displays are Super AMOLED, as can be expected from Samsung, and the company has said that they deliver 94 percent Adobe RGB. There's also two display features to help it look even better: Adaptive Display, which can automatically adjust gamma, saturation and sharpness, and Reading Mode for the perfect brightness for your eyes.

During our time with both tablets, we found the screens to be stunning. They're bright and crisp and the colours seemed to pop, so we know they'll make for a great experience if you plan on using your Tab S2 for watching videos and playing games.

## New features

The two tablets share many of the same specs, despite being quite different in size. They have the same Exynos 5433 Octa-core processor and Mali





T760MP6 for graphics, as well as 3GB RAM, so we expect it to do well in our benchmark tests and we're looking forward to putting it head-to-head with its rivals and predecessors for our full review when we get one back to the Android Advisor labs.

Internal storage is 32GB or 64GB and both have a microSD card slot to allow you to add up to 128GB more space, so you won't be running out of room for more videos, photos or apps any time soon.

When it comes to connectivity, you'll find 802.11ac WiFi, Bluetooth 4.1, GNSS and optional 4G LTE, so essentially all of the connectivity features you'd expect from a flagship tablet these days which we're pleased to see.

You'll also get the fingerprint sensor, which has been improved since the previous generation to match the Galaxy S6 phones, replacing the swipe requirement with a much easier-to-use touch mechanism like Apple's Touch ID fingerprint sensor found on the latest iPads.

The tablets do have different batteries, though, and that's because of the different screen sizes which require different amounts of power to maintain. The smaller of the two tablets has a 4000mAh battery, while the 9.7in model has a bigger 5870mAh battery.

## Cameras

We had a play with the cameras on the Tab S2 during the event and found that the pictures weren't great, but we don't think they need to be on a tablet so we aren't too disappointed. The front-facing camera is 2.1Mp, while the rear-facing camera is 8Mp like the iPad Air 2. Pictures were a little grainy and shutter speed isn't great, but you should find the images you're able to capture satisfactory, and it's more likely you'll be using a smartphone or dedicated camera for anything important you want to take a photo of.



## Software

The Tab S2 models come with Android Lollipop 5.0 pre-installed and we expect an Android M update is in the works, and as a bonus you'll get Microsoft Office and 100GB of OneDrive free for two years with your tablet.

Samsung has added some of its own features to the software, including the Pop-Up Window and Smart Manager features.

## Verdict

Our first impressions have left us feeling excited about getting both models back to our lab to play with. It takes seconds to be impressed by these tablets. They're almost unbelievably thin and light and that screen is a joy to use. We'll be interested to see the price tags and are looking forward to running our benchmark tests to find out just how powerful these new tablets are, but we're sure that these tablets are about to make their way into our best tablet charts, and they won't come quietly.







## Review:

# LG G4c

The LG G4c is the closest thing we have to an LG G4 mini, but ultimately it disappoints. Find out why in our review

£209 • [lg.com/uk](http://lg.com/uk) • ★★★★★

**T**here's no official LG G4 mini, but this mid-range phone is the closest you'll find to one. Cheaper and smaller than the flagship Android phone, but neither cheap- nor compact enough to turn heads, the LG G4c is something of a disappointment. Find out what is and what's not to like in our LG G4c review.

The LG G4c is a cut-down version of the excellent LG G4. It is a smaller, more affordable

phone from LG, with a 5in display and a quad-core chip. With an RRP of £229 (and currently £209.99 SIM-free at Amazon) it's not a cheap phone, but it sits nicely in the middle ranks of modern Android phones. It runs Android Lollipop.

## Build and design

The LG G4C revels in a minimalist chic. It has a nicely curved design that makes it look sleek and expensive. The removable diamond-patterned back helps here, with LG branding stamped clearly and stylishly. It feels robust and built to last, and that diamond patterning reduces the impact of scratches.

At 136g the LG G4C is a fairly standard weight; lighter, smaller and cheaper than the LG G4. Measuring 139.7x69.8x10.2mm it is slim without being super-slim, but it feels good in the hand.

The volume controls and home button are on the back, which does take a bit of getting used to if you haven't used the LG G3 or LG G4. But they are responsive and we grew to like this touch.





Overall there is not a lot of wow factor, but as it's the cheaper version of the LG G4 we guess this is not the purpose of this particular model. It is good enough in this respect.

## Display

According to LG you are closer from finger to display than on other phones. We're not sure why that's a benefit, but hey: we'll mention it anyway. In use the display feels perfectly responsive.

Indeed, the overall display quality is good - very bright and clear. It is not as good as that found on the LG G4, obviously, but no display is.

Specs fans may like to know that it is an IPS LCD capacitive touchscreen, with 16M colors. Packed into those 5 inches are 720x1280 pixels, which makes for a middle-of-the-road 294ppi pixel density.

## Storage

Onboard is 8GB of storage, which is not enough in our view. But the LG G4C has a microSD card slot, with which you can add up to 128GB.

## Performance

You get a quad-core Cortex-A53 chip, clocked at 1.3GHz. This is paired with a single gigabyte of RAM. So far so standard for a mid-range, mid-2015 phone.

Connectivity is standard too, so there were no problems there. You get Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n, dual-band, WiFi Direct, DLNA, hotspot. The LG G4C uses Bluetooth v4.1, A2DP, LE, apt-X, and there is GPS, and NFC. The LG G4C uses microUSB v2.0 to connect and charge.

In general use we would say that the LG G4C is most certainly not as powerful as the LG G4, which would make us reconsider buying it. Of course it is a lot cheaper, but it isn't cheap. And we found the LG G4C to be a bit sluggish when moving between apps, which is frustrating.

This is born out by poor synthetic benchmark performance. In the Geekbench 3 test we got a mediocre average score of 1450. GPU performance



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**On a brighter note, the LG G4c's battery is better than most**

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was similarly meh, with the GFXBench Manhattan offscreen test turning in a paltry score of 1.7fps.

Here endeth the bad news. It is not a performer.

### **Battery life**

On a brighter note, at least new the LG G4C's battery is better than most. We found that it could last a whole day with heavy use. (And we mean heavy use: I have been at home all day with my five-month-old daughter. Your phone gets some action.)

### **Camera**

Up front there is a 5 megapixel camera for selfies, around the back is an 8 megapixel snapper for shutterbugs. It is very middle-ground. In use we found nothing that stands out particularly, but the camera is at least reasonable considering its price. It is fit for purpose.

One nice touch is the function that makes you able to flip between front and back camera with just a swipe.

### **Verdict**

Overall we are disappointed with the LG G4C. It is neither cheap enough to be truly budget, nor good enough to stand out in a crowded middle of the Android phone market. Battery life is great, performance poor.



## Review:

# EE Rook

The cheapest smartphone in EE's line-up, the Rook costs just £39. So what do you get for your money?

£39 • [ee.co.uk](http://ee.co.uk) • ★★★★★☆

If you're looking for the cheapest 4G phone on the market, then you've come to the right place. The Rook is available for the paltry sum of £39 for EE customers. Otherwise you'll have to pay £49, plus another £10 to top up the phone, though since this is credit you can use to make calls it's hardly a catch.

Even at the higher price, it's still a very cheap device, with most budget phones with 4G LTE support costing £80 to £100. Even EE's own Harrier

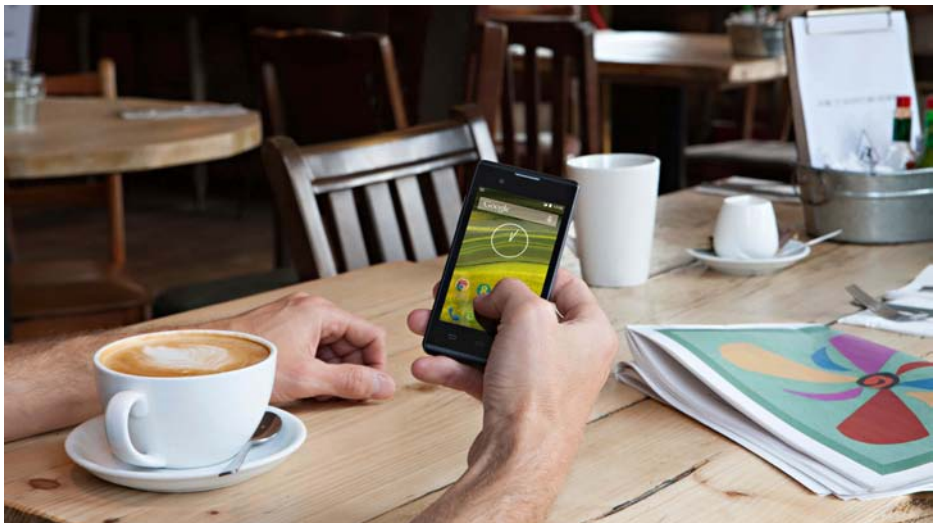


Mini is £99, so the closest rival on price is the impressive Vodafone Smart Prime 6 at £79.

As with most budget phones, there's little to say about the EE Rook in terms of looks and build. The device is small, too, so fits in the hand much easier than most modern phones. The 130g weight helps the Rook to feel solid, and like its bigger brothers there's a yellow ring around the camera.

The rear cover is removable, giving access to the card slots and battery. Our main gripe is that the rear cover attracts fingerprints and grease, so it constantly looks grubby. Plus, the recessed ear piece will be a magnet for dust and dirt.

At 4in, the display is tiny compared to almost every other smartphone on the market at the moment. Anything under 5in can arguably be described as small, so going back to the same size as the iPhone 4s is strange if you've got used to today's average.



The resolution is just 480x800, so images are far from crisp. There is, however, a bigger problem – poor viewing angles mean you need to look at the Rook straight on to see what you’re doing. Move the device, or your head, even a small amount and image quality diminishes severely. From the bottom of the phone, it’s almost completely white, while the opposite is true looking from the top.

The Rook is powered by a MediaTek MT6735M 1GHz processor, which is quad-core and 64-bit, with a built-in 4G modem. There’s also 1GB of RAM, and apart from the initial setup of the phone, we found performance to be unexpectedly smooth. Don’t try and play any graphically advanced games, but titles such as Temple Run 2 will be okay.

It’s far from flawless and the Rook does lag when you push it, but on the whole it can keep up with most regular tasks. We were also impressed with the benchmark results, which you can see in the table below. Note that it outpaced the Smart Prime 6 and EE Harrier Mini in graphics tests.

Of the 8GB of storage just 2.5GB is available out of the box, but a microSD card slot alleviates this problem and can accept up to 32GB memory cards.

Don’t expect much in the way of other specs, though. It has basic Wi-Fi, GPS and Bluetooth 4.0, but no fancy features such as NFC for use with EE’s Cash on Tap.

As mentioned earlier, the battery is removable and isn’t particularly large in capacity at 1500mAh. However, the Rook faired pretty well in our



benchmark test lasting five hours, 22 minutes. That's better than the mid-range Sony Xperia M4 Aqua, which managed four hours, 49 minutes.

We wouldn't have been too shocked to find one or even no cameras on the EE Rook in order to achieve the price, but it has both front and rear shooters. The back offering is 5Mp, while the front is a very basic VGA resolution camera. Although there are features such as HDR and panorama available, the results won't be anything special.

It's impressive to find the Rook preloaded with the latest version of Google's Android operating system, 5.1 Lollipop. Like the EE Harrier and Harrier Mini, the experience is largely stock Android, or 'vanilla', so the firm has left the OS alone on the whole.

The Rook comes with a number of preinstalled apps, including Lookout, Deezer, Games and Apps, plus various apps from Amazon. While widgets can be removed from the homescreen panels, the apps themselves can only be disabled, not uninstalled.



Navigation buttons sit below the screen, which in this case is pretty handy as the 4in display is small enough without having to host a nav bar. It's good to see that one of the buttons is for recent apps and not the out-of-date menu option, which we've seen on other phones.

## Verdict

If you don't mind the basic design, the EE Rook is a good little phone. We can't argue with the price of £39 for existing customers and the performance is better than we expect for a sub-£50 phone. It's mainly the miserable viewing angles of the screen that put us off, so you are better off spending a little more if you can afford it.





## Review:

# Sony Xperia Z4 Tablet

Sony's premium tablet is a real rival to the iPad Air 2 and other top-end Android tablets

£499 • [sony.co.uk](http://sony.co.uk) • ★★★★★☆

**T**he Xperia Z4 Tablet is Sony's latest 10in Android tablet and is the successor to the Japanese tech giant's Z2 Tablet.

In comparison with Apple's market-leading iPad Air 2, the Z4 is the same thickness, though a decent 45g lighter, so tops marks to Sony. The Xperia feels great in the hand too, with the weight making it easy to handle.

Sony continues to offer dust- and waterproofing, this time to an IP68 rating, which is the highest



available. We've got used to the headphone port not needing a cover or flap to keep the moisture out, but now the Micro-USB port doesn't either, which is a great addition. Only having one flap for cards is ideal as you rarely need to open it.

Aside from the above changes, the design remains the same as the Z2. The bezel that runs around the display doesn't look great, but means you can hold any side without needing to touch the screen, leaving your fingers in the way.

What we thought was an optional Bluetooth keyboard dock (BKB50) is now bundled with the tablet. This supports tilt and a trackpad for what Sony calls a "premium laptop experience". The Z4 Tablet slots in easily and you can then adjust the angle or close it just as you would a regular laptop.

It all works smoothly, though there's a limit to how far back you can tilt the tablet, so it doesn't topple over. The keyboard is a little flimsy and the keys are small, so it's not the optimum experience, but you



can get a reasonable amount of typing done without pulling your hair out. The trackpad is good and using Android with a mouse cursor makes a lot of sense.

Sony has improved the resolution of its latest 10in tablet to 2560x1600 and boosted the brightness to 500cd/m<sup>2</sup>. The pixel density of 299ppi is also impressive and outpaces the iPad Air 2's 264ppi. We were impressed by the 'Triluminos' screen and the IPS panel means viewing angles are good, too.

Other hardware upgrades include a Snapdragon 810 processor, which is both octa-core and 64-bit. There's 3GB of RAM to accompany it, 32GB of internal storage, while there's a microSD card slot that's capable of accepting up to 128GB more.

Performance is also impressive and the Z4 Tablet breezed through our benchmarks (see below) and felt slick in operation.

Additional hardware consists of 11ac Wi-Fi, NFC, Bluetooth 4.1 and MHL 3.0. Our review unit was a





Wi-Fi only model, but you can also opt for a Z4 that offers 3G/4G LTE connectivity if you want data on the go and the ability to make phone calls. It's not cheap though, and will set you back £579.

The Z4 supports High-Res audio, and like the Z3 range has front-facing stereo speakers, supports digital noise cancelling, offers automatic headphone compensation and comes with a new LDAC codec that according to Sony transmits data three times more efficiently than Bluetooth.

For photo and video there are 8.1- and 5.1Mp cameras back and front. The main shooter uses Sony's Exmor RS sensor, while the front camera has a wide-angle lens to get more people in the frame.

In our Geekbench 3 battery test, Sony's tablet lasted an impressive nine hours 53 minutes, with a score of 5933.

The Xperia Z4 runs Android 5.0 Lollipop and Sony has kept things vanilla, so the experience is close

to that of a Nexus device running stock Android. There's the Lollipop two-stage notification bar and card-style recent apps menu. During testing, we found the software to be slick and responsive.

Sony has preloaded its own apps, including Walkman, Album, PlayStation and Lifelog. The Z4 also comes with Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Other third-party apps include AVG Protection, Garmin Navigation, Vine and Kobo Books. Thankfully, you can uninstall them all if you don't want them.

Xperia Lounge, which has been around for a while now, offers silver and gold tiers with the top level reserved for Z devices. Sony promises content including music, video, cloud storage and software upgrades for the life of the tablet.

As well as the High-Res audio support mentioned earlier, the Xperia Z4 includes PS4 Remote Play enabling you to play PS4 games on the device from the console over the same Wi-Fi network.

## Verdict

The Z4 Tablet is an impressive device and one of the best tablets we've tested.





## Review:

# Dell Venue 8 7000

Dell might be better known for Windows laptops than Android tablets, but it nearly got it right

£369 • [dell.co.uk](http://dell.co.uk) • ★★★★★☆

**D**ell is the slightly unlikely claimant to the title of world's thinnest tablet with the Venue 8 7000. It's also the first device we've seen with Intel RealSense technology.

As we've touched on, the headline design feature of this tablet is how thin it is. At just 6mm, it's slimmer than the Samsung Galaxy Tab S 8.4, Sony Xperia Z3 Tablet Compact and iPad Air 2, which are 6.6-, 6.4- and 6.1mm respectively. It's also lightweight in

the hand, although 310g makes it a little heavier than its Samsung and Sony rivals. We like the feel of the unibody metal casing that covers most of the tablet.

Dell has created a stylish design, although it looks a little odd with the large bezel at one end of the screen, which houses a sizable camera lens and speaker grill. It would look very HTC-like if there was a second speaker at the other end and we're not sure why Dell didn't go down this route in order to offer stereo speakers (they are stereo but at one end, which defeats the point).

The tablet is designed to be held in portrait orientation, with the speaker at the bottom. That's fine and while you can easily hold the Venue in one hand, grasping it this way does mean that the cameras are blocked by your hand.

On the hardware front, the Dell uses a quad-core Z3500 Moorefield chip that has PowerVR G6430 graphics, while there's 2GB of RAM. Performance is decent across the board and we've only noticed a little bit of lag with things such as auto-rotation and launching the camera.





In terms of benchmark results, the Dell Venue 8 7000 keeps up with its Sony and Samsung rivals which all provide similar results. See the table below for all the results.

The 8.4in OLED screen is stunning. With a resolution of 2560x1600 and a pixel density of 359ppi, it matches the Samsung Galaxy Tab S 8.4. The glossy display is reflective, and although it's very crisp, the Lollipop drop-down menu is a little small.

One of the features that Dell is highlighting as a reason to buy this tablet is that it comes with Intel's RealSense technology.

There are three cameras on the rear of the tablet – one is 8Mp, and the other two are 1Mp and shoot



720p video. The main camera sits on its own in the bezel, while the other two sit in a more central location. The idea is that the additional two act like your eyes and capture depth information (up to 10m). This can be used to not only refocus the image after you've take in but also measure items within it.

Unfortunately, after all the hype we found RealSense to be a letdown. The tablet does warn that you need bright conditions for it to work, but we've simply found it unreliable at measuring things and the refocus can only be described as atrocious.

The Venue 8 7000 comes with 16GB of internal storage, which sounds good, but only 6GB is available to the user. There is a microSD card slot though, which adds up to 512GB of extra storage.

Dell also touts a battery life of up to nine-and-a-half hours and fast charging. Our battery benchmark





test yielded a result of nine hours, 11 minutes with a score of 5493, which isn't far off the impressive Sony Xperia Z4 Tablet which managed nine hours, 53 minutes and a score of 5933.

Out of the box, the Venue 8 7000 runs Android 4.4 KitKat, though we we're able to update it to Android 5.0.2 Lollipop straightaway. It's getting more common for Android to be left well alone making for a 'vanilla' experience. This is a plus point as it gives you a blank canvas with which to customise the interface how you like. Dell does add a few apps though and you must use its Gallery app to take advantage of the RealSense features.

An advantage of the Gallery app is the option to store and organise photos and video by GPS

position, making it easier to show someone only photos taken on a holiday abroad or a particular day trip, for example. Another app, MyDell, lets you check on things such as storage, charge, CPU and memory usage, as well as getting online support.

As well as the Dell apps, you'll find things such as Evernote, Dropbox, Polaris Office 5, Skitch, McAfee Security and MaxxAudio preinstalled. The list isn't too big but the bad news is that you can't uninstall them – disabling is the best you can do here.

## Verdict

The Dell Venue 8 7000 is an attractive Android tablet with a super slim design, a great screen and offers smooth performance combined with good battery life. However, it's more expensive than its rivals and the RealSense camera technology isn't worth the time of day.





## Review:

# Vodafone Tab Prime 6

Like EE, Vodafone stocks its own range of phones and tablets, including this £150 Tab Prime 6

£150 • [vodafone.co.uk](http://vodafone.co.uk) • ★★★★★

It's becoming increasingly common for mobile networks to offer their own products and EE now has its own range, including an action camera. Vodafone isn't far behind, but is sticking to core devices such as smartphones and tablets. We were impressed by its Smart Prime 6 budget phone, so our hopes were high for the Tab Prime 6.

This is a simple tablet in terms of design, looking a little like the Google Nexus 9 but without the

premium materials. Despite the lack of any metal, it looks and feels good, with the anthracite rear cover, which is smooth and slippery.

The camera sticks out a little way, but that's not a big problem and the back also has a flap hiding the microSD- and SIM card slots. As you might expect, there's a Vodafone logo and '4G' printed above four round metal contacts, which are for a keyboard.

The Tab Prime 6 is just 7.9mm thick and weighs 406g. We found it easy to hold in both portrait- and landscape mode, but be aware it's tall because of the 16:9 ratio screen.

Most budget tablets offer a small 7in screen, but the Vodafone Tab Prime 6 has a 9.6in display. That's





a decent amount of space, though the resolution is just 1280x800.

There's a reasonable amount of brightness on offer here – at least for indoor use – and colour reproduction isn't bad either, but that resolution on a screen this size simply means things aren't crisp and some text can even appear blurry, which is far from ideal. The display is just 157ppi.

Inside is a 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410 processor and 1GB of RAM. Benchmark results aren't great, and although the Tab Prime 6 is sticky in performance occasionally, we found it was smooth during testing. Take note of the GFXBench results though, which show that this really isn't a tablet for gaming. Although Vodafone's website lists only an 8GB model, we were sent a 16GB version. There's a microSD card slot for adding more storage (up to 32GB) which is handy.

One of the main features and reasons to buy the Vodafone Tab Prime 6 is the built-in 4G LTE support. Whether you buy the tablet on PAYG or contract, it will come with a SIM card and you can get data on the go easily.

With 802.11a/b/g/n Wi-Fi and Bluetooth 4.1 we were surprised to find an IR blaster, which means you can use it as a universal remote control around your home via the preinstalled Peel app.

The cameras are basic and you won't get anything special from the 5Mp rear camera, which doesn't have a flash. The front snapper is equally poor and won't provide a crisp image for video calling, plus it's positioned off-centre, which doesn't help matters.

In terms of battery life, the Vodafone offers decent performance from the non-removable 4600mAh battery. In our Geekbench 3 test, it managed seven hours 49 minutes, with a score of 3129. We've not tested many tablets with this benchmark, but for





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**The Tab Prime 6 isn't a bad attempt at a budget tablet, with decent build but a letdown screen**

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comparison the Sony Xperia Z4 Tablet provided nine hours 53 minutes, with a score of 5933 with its 6000mAh battery.

The Tab Prime 6 comes with a vanilla version of Android 5.0 Lollipop. It does come with some branded items though, but not many. There's a Vodafone SIM app, plus Discover and Update apps, though you can uninstall these if you like.

As with many Android devices, swiping right from the homescreen takes you to a separate section. In this case it's Flipboard, though Vodafone offers the option to change it which we really like. Within the display settings, you can switch it off completely or choose what swiping right launches, including regular apps. Google is included in the options giving you a Nexus style UI where Google Now is a swipe away – just remember it launches the app so you can't swipe back to the homescreen.

With Vodafone offering stock Android Lollipop, holding back on bloatware and adding customisation where it's not normally available, the software of the Tab Prime 6 is a real plus point.

### **Verdict**

The Tab Prime 6 isn't a bad attempt at a budget tablet, with decent build and almost stock Android. It's the screen that is the biggest letdown here.



## Review: LG Watch Urbane

LG does stylish smartwatches incredibly well. We take an in-depth look at its latest piece of wearable tech

£259 • [lg.com/uk](http://lg.com/uk) • ★★★★★☆

**W**ith its design and build superior to most Android Wear smartwatches, the LG Watch Urbane fetches a higher price. While most cost between £150 and £200, the Urbane costs £259. (It's still cheaper than the Apple Watch.)

Looking very much like its predecessor, the G Watch R, the Urbane has been upgraded to a full metal casing, and is available in a silver option and a more blingtastic gold.

A watch like this is supposed to be big and heavy, and if that's what you're looking for then great, but some may find this device too bulky and unwieldy for their wrist. Weighing 67g and measuring 46x52x10.9mm, the Urbane is hardly svelte, though it's thinner than the G Watch R because it doesn't have the dished bezel around the screen.

The silver model comes with a black leather strap, while the gold option is paired with a brown strap. You can swap them out for any strap with 22mm pins, which is handy. As expected, the leather is stiff at first but softens over time making it more comfortable to wear.

Like its sort of predecessor, the Urbane has an IP67-rated design meaning it's waterproof. LG warns that you shouldn't keep it submerged longer than 30 minutes though, or take it to a depth greater than 1m.





The design is the big change here when compared to the G Watch R. The hardware and specs remain the same, so you'll get a 1.3in (320x320) P-OLED screen, a Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor and 4GB of internal storage.

The screen is crisp and has decent brightness, so you can read it easily indoors and out. However, you'll probably want to switch the always-on feature to save battery since there's no ambient light sensor for automatically adjusting brightness.

There's also 512MB of RAM, the same heart-rate monitor on the underside and other sensors including a barometer, accelerometer and compass. The Watch Urbane lacks GPS, though. As with other heart-rate monitors on watches, taking a reading is

very much hit-and-miss, so you often need to press the watch firmly on to your skin to help it out.

A big new addition is built-in Wi-Fi, which means you can still use the Urbane even without having it connected to a companion device – minus any phone-specific notifications such as calls and text messages, of course. You can select this option when setting up with the Android Wear app.

The 410mAh battery is the same size as that found in the G Watch R and is charged via a magnetic dock – that's why there are five circular metal contacts on the rear. In terms of battery life, you'll get just over a day, but if you turn off the 'always-on' function, then the screen will consume less power and you'll get a couple of days from the Watch Urbane if your usage is light.

As well as Wi-Fi connectivity, the Urbane has more tricks up its sleeve thanks to the recent Android Wear update. The menu is now split into three sections, which contain apps, contacts and available





commands. It's a welcome change and makes using the operating system a lot easier than previously.

The apps menu will display recently used ones at the top, but don't get too excited about the LG Call apps because the watch doesn't have a speaker so it's just for initiating a call on your connected phone.

### Verdict

There's a lot to like about the LG Watch Urbane with its Wi-Fi connectivity and the new version of Android Wear. Since in essence, it's the same device as the G Watch R in terms of hardware, your purchase hinges on the design. It's expensive and bulky, and we can't see it appearing to the masses, so the G Watch R is still our recommended choice.



# Review:

## Choetech Power Bank

A power bank with Qualcomm Quick Charge 2.0 support?  
Where have you been all our lives?

£33.99 • [choetech.com](http://choetech.com) • ★★★★★

After months of seeing multiple variations on the same theme when it comes to power banks, in the past two days we've seen two new functionalities that have been introduced to these portable phone- and tablet chargers.

Also this month we have reviewed the MiPow Power Tube 3000 (admittedly just for iPhones, so we haven't included it here), which includes Bluetooth connectivity so you can pair it with an



app and monitor the remaining capacity and device temperature - a hot topic, thanks to a recent EE Power Bar fire-safety scare (see page 83).

Here we have the Choetech Portable Power Bank, the first power bank we've seen to include support for Qualcomm Quick Charge 2.0 - and not only for charging your devices but also for refilling its own battery, which means you could refill this high-capacity bank in just 7.5 hours.

If you have a phone or tablet that supports Quick Charge, you'll know just how welcome a feature it is. Qualcomm Quick Charge 2.0 is able to reduce charging time by up to 75 percent, and in the case of our own Samsung Galaxy S6 we can obtain a 40 percent charge in just 30 minutes. Having tried it, I actually wouldn't buy a phone without it.

With our phones now an essential part of our daily lives, and hardware getting more powerful with every new release, battery life is an issue; the ability to get enough charge for several hours' use in literally a few minutes is an absolute lifesaver. Incorporating that functionality into a portable power bank is genius.



We say portable, but the Choetech - for all the great tech that lies inside - is a bit of a brick. It's a shiny brick, thanks to its glossy black coating, but this does little to hide its size and actually makes it feel a little cheap. (And cheap it isn't, at £33.99 from Amazon UK - at least not when compared to many rival power banks of this capacity.) The Choetech measures 147x78x16mm, and weighs a hefty 356g.

To be fair, the Choetech does provide 15,600mAh of power for charging up a connected phone and/or tablet. Most power banks, unless the manufacturer specifically states otherwise, hover around 65- to 70 percent efficiency. This means not all of that 15,600mAh of power will make its way to your devices; instead, you should expect something closer to 10,500mAh. That's still plenty of juice, mind, and would fill our Samsung Galaxy S6 four times, or a smaller-capacity iPhone battery something like five- to six times.

Talking about iPhones, if you have a phone or tablet that doesn't support Quick Charge you'll note there are two outputs and two inputs on this Choetech power bank. Input 1 is a 5V 2.1A (5.5W)/9V 1.5A (13.5W) Micro-USB port that supports Quick Charge; to refill the bank just pair it with the charger that came with your Quick Charge-compatible device. Input 2 is a Lightning port, making refills



easier for iPhone users who are unlikely to have a Micro-USB cable to hand (although one is supplied in the box). This operates at the slower speed of 5V 2.1A or 5.5W.

When it comes to charging up your phone or tablet, those with Quick Charge-compatible devices should use output 2, which is instantly recognisable by its blue connection. This is a 5V 2.4A (12W)/9V 1.7A (15.3W)/12V 1.3A (15.6W) output. The other output, output 1, is a 5V 1A (5W) connection for charging an iPhone or non-Quick Charge-compatible Android phone.

That's it for the ports and connections, and the only other hardware control you'll find is a power button on top of the Choetech Portable Power Bank. Beside this are four LEDs with the legends 25-, 50-, 75- and 100% to show how much power remains. The power button is used to see the capacity status at a glance, and also to begin charging, since the Choetech doesn't support auto-on.

Another feature the Choetech doesn't support is passthrough charging, which is the ability to





charge both the power bank and a connected device at once. We're happy to ignore this gripe, however, given that charging time is greatly reduced for both phone and power bank via Quick Charge.

Also missing is a soft carry case and an LED torch, two things commonly provided with the vast majority of power banks. But you know what we're going to say: who cares - it supports Quick Charge!

In all honesty, though, were it not for the inclusion of Quick Charge support and the ability to refill the device via either Micro-USB or Lightning, the Choetech would be a very standard, albeit

high-capacity power bank. If your phone doesn't support Quick Charge, or the Lightning input is of no use to you, we would advise you to look elsewhere.

## Verdict

We can't say enough just how pleased we are with the inclusion of Quick Charge 2.0 support in this power bank, and if speed is important to you then no doubt you'll feel the same. iPhone users will also appreciate the Lightning input, although the Quick Charge functionality will be of no use to them. In other respects there is nothing standout here, so if you won't benefit from Quick Charge or Lightning you should look elsewhere.



## How to: Get a free EE Power Bar

Plus: How to check whether your EE Power Bar could be a fire-safety hazard

**E**E has launched a scheme where its customers can get a free Power Bar portable smartphone charger. It has since transpired that there is a dodgy batch of Power Bars, so here we explain not only how to claim your free EE Power Bar but also how to check you don't have a dodgy one.

If you're with EE then you can get a free Power Bar. The cylindrical portable charger will help you avoid running out of power when you're out and about away from a mains socket.

Not only is the Power Bar free for mobile- and broadband customers, once the power is depleted you can swap it in store for a fully charged one at no extra cost (as long as it's not broken). A Power Bar contains 2600mAh. This may provide a full charge for some phones, and can also be used with tablets and other USB-powered devices.

Note: If you do manage to get an EE Power Bar, you'll need to return it within 18 months for renewal and there "may be a £5 charge payable so we can replenish stock." EE adds "Please remember, we don't want to charge our customers if they don't return their Power Bar – it really isn't the point of EE Power. So we're also giving everyone 60 days past their 18 months to bring it back, and we might be able to extend that time if you email us."

If you're an EE, T-Mobile or Orange mobile customer, text the word 'POWER' to 365 (texts cost





35p). You'll then be verified and sent a redemption code which you'll need to take into a store in order to collect your Power Bar.

The offer is open to customers on a 30 day, 12-, 18- or 24 month plan. Pay As You Go customers can also participate but you need to have been a customer for at least three months.

Broadband customers need to text 'JOIN' plus your EE landline number to 60005 (texts cost 35p) and follow the instructions provided. As with mobile customers, you'll be sent a redemption code to use in store once you've been verified.

If you're not an EE customer you can still join the scheme, including the ability to swap your empty Power Bar for a fresh one. However, you'll need to pay an initial fee of £20.

### **Check your Power Bar now**

On 5 August, EE published a web page that explains that it is recalling some of its Power Bars after it was discovered that they aren't safe.



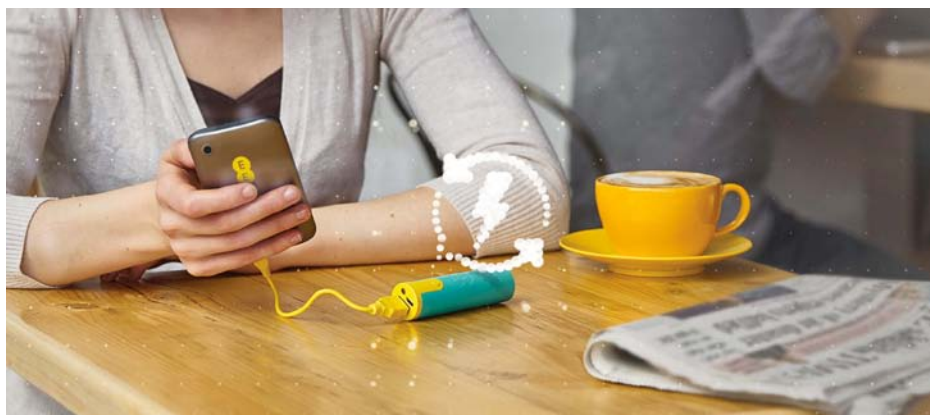
"EE has identified a very small number of incidents where Power Bars have overheated, all of which relate to batch E1-06, and could pose a fire safety risk."

"We're therefore recalling batch E1-06 and request that customers stop using them and return their device to a local EE store at their earliest convenience."

EE says that other Power Bars from any other batch are not affected by the recall, and it promises to replace the chargers once the investigation into the cause of the safety risk has been determined.

It's important to check your EE Power Bar as soon as possible. You can do so by looking at the code on the side of the device. If the Model Number reads "E1-06" you will need to stop using the Power Bar and return it to EE as soon as you can.

In addition to the recall, EE has also temporarily suspended the swap program until it has completed its recall process and restock, so you won't be able to take your Power Bar into an EE store and swap it even if yours isn't affected by the recall.





## How to:

# Avoid the MMS virus

Stagefright can attack your Android phone on the back of a single text message. Here's how to stay safe

**A**ndroid security is hitting the headlines following a report from cybersecurity firm Zimperium that suggests Android phones can be infected with a picture message, allowing hackers to take complete control of a phone. Before you panic, here's how to avoid the Stagefright Android MMS virus.

We should note that although there is a patch for the flaw, known as Stagefright and to which some 950 million devices are said to be vulnerable, the

various flavours of Android in use and the need for both mobile operators and phone manufacturers to be involved in any software updates makes it impossible for Google to automatically roll out a patch to all Android users. Those using older handsets will likely never get the patch.

Traditionally, Android malware comes through the installation of dodgy apps outside of the protected walls of Google Play. However, it's also possible to attach malware to a multimedia message, which will download to your phone once you view the message.

A simple solution, you might think, would be to keep your wits about you and not to open and immediately delete any suspicious-looking messages. But that's not always so easy; Hangouts, which will be the default messaging app for many Android users, by default automatically processes incoming media messages without your input. Other messaging apps may also be set to auto-retrieve multimedia messages by default, and you should check this is not the case with whichever app you happen to be using.

If you're using Hangouts as the default messaging app, you can either use a different messaging app or you can stop it automatically retrieving multimedia messages. We'll look at how to do so below.

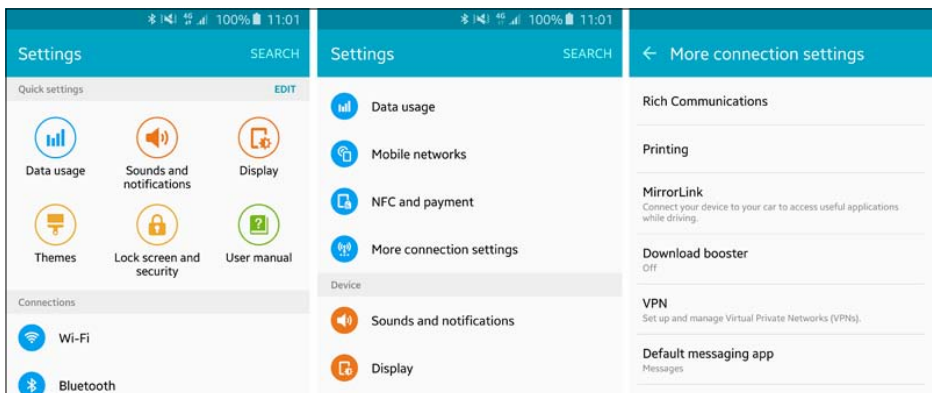
An easy way to check whether your device is vulnerable to Stagefright is to download the free Stagefright Detector app from Lookout. The app, when launched, will automatically scan your phone and let you know whether you're at risk. If you are, follow the steps below to protect your phone from the Stagefright MMS virus.

Security firm 360 Security advises also taking steps to protect your phone from Stagefright while locked. It says to open the Settings app, then choose Notifications under My Device. Depending on your device, Choose 'When Locked' or 'Notifications on Lock Screen', then choose 'Hide Sensitive Content'. This will stop the bug from being executed when your phone is locked.

## Change the default messaging app

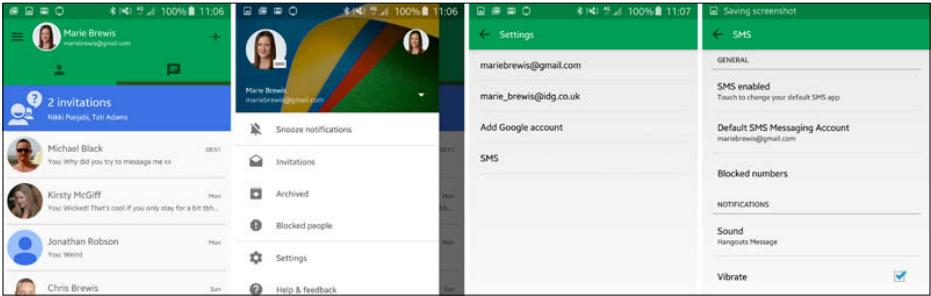
**Step 1.** There are two ways to access the option to change your default messaging app in Android. The first is to open the Settings app on your phone, then select More under Wireless & networks, and finally tap on Default SMS app.

(This looks a little different on our Samsung Galaxy S6, on which we open the Settings menu, choose More connection settings under Connections, then select Default messaging app.)

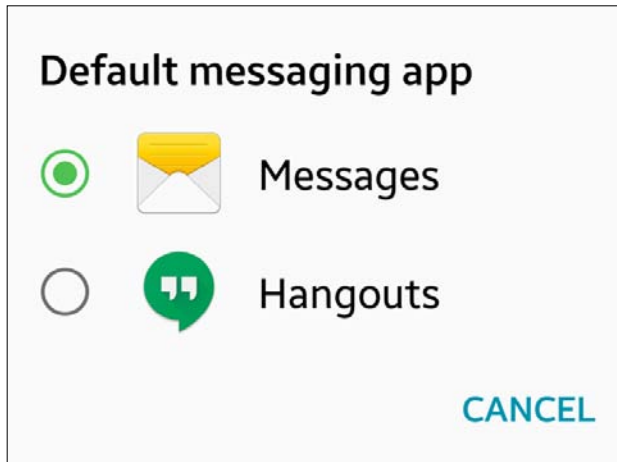


The second way to access this option is through Hangouts itself. Open the app and tap the three vertical lines icon at the top left of the screen to

access the options, then choose Settings, SMS, SMS enabled.



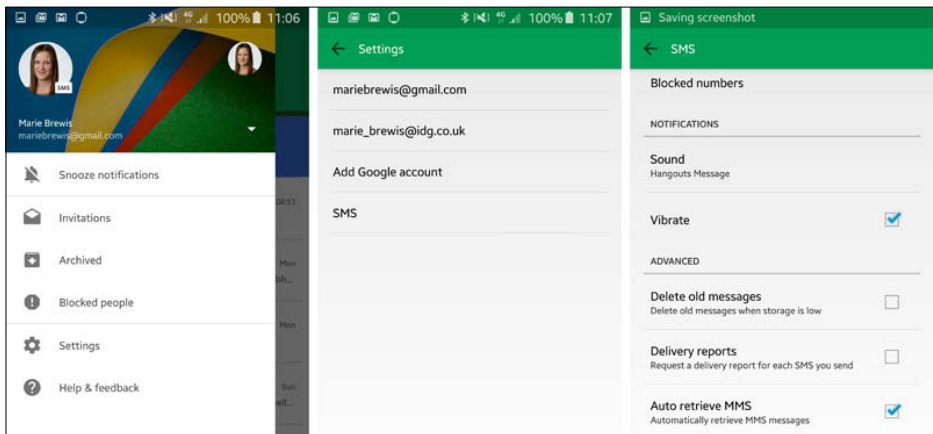
**Step 2.** If Hangouts is selected as the default messaging app, instead choose Messaging or Messages or any other option you see here. If you don't see another option go to step 3.



**Step 3.** If you don't have an alternative messaging app on your phone you can either download a new app from Google Play, or you can turn off Hangouts' ability to automatically retrieve multimedia messages.

If you go with the first option, note that you may need to set it as the phone's default messaging app within the app's own settings menu before you see an option to select it within Settings, More, Default SMS app.

If you go with the second option, open Hangouts, tap the three vertical lines at the top left of the screen, then choose Settings, SMS. Scroll down the page to the Advanced section and deselect the box to Auto retrieve MMS.



**Step 4.** It's not just Hangouts that will auto-retrieve multimedia messages by default. The Messages app on our S6 also auto-retrieves MMS by default. To turn this off open Messages and select More, Settings, More Settings, Multimedia messages, and disable the option to Auto retrieve.

In vanilla versions of Android where Hangouts is not the default messaging app you should open the Messaging app and select the three dots icon to access Settings, Multimedia MMS Messages, then ensure the option to auto retrieve is disabled.

## Best smartphones


**1**
**PC ADVISOR**  
RECOMMENDED

**2**
**PC ADVISOR**  
GOLD






**3**
**PC ADVISOR**  
RECOMMENDED

**4**
**PC ADVISOR**  
GOLD

**5**
**PC ADVISOR**  
RECOMMENDED

	Samsung Galaxy S6	Sony Xperia Z3 Compact	LG G4	LG G3	HTC One M9
Price	£349 inc VAT	£349 inc VAT	£500 inc VAT	£479 inc VAT	£579 inc VAT
Website	Samsung.com/uk	Sony.co.uk	Lg.com/uk	Lg.com/uk	HTC.com/uk
Launch date	Apr 15	Sep 14	May 15	May 14	Mar 15
Build rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Features rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Performance rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Value rating	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★☆
Overall rating	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
OS (out of box)	Android 5.0 Lollipop	Android 4.4 KitKat	Android 5.1 Lollipop	Android 4.4 KitKat	Android 5.0 Lollipop
Processor	2.1GHz Exynos 7420	2.5GHz Snapdragon 801	Snapdragon 808 six-core	2.5GHz Snapdragon 801	Snapdragon 810 octa-core
RAM	3GB	2GB	3GB	2GB/3GB	3GB
Storage	32/64GB	16GB	32GB	16GB/32GB	32GB
MicroSD support	No	Up to 128GB	Up to 128GB	No	Up to 128GB
Graphics	Mali-T760 GPU	Adreno 330	Adreno 418	Adreno 330	Adreno 430
Screen size	5.1in	4.6in	4.5in	5.5in	5in
Screen resolution	1440x2560	720x1280	1440x2560	1440x2560	1080x1920
Pixel density	577ppi	319ppi	538ppi	534ppi	441ppi
Screen technology	Super AMOLED	IPS	IPS	IPS	IPS
Front camera	5Mp	2.2Mp	8Mp	2Mp	4Mp (UltraPixel)
Rear camera	16Mp, LED flash	20.7Mp, LED flash	16Mp	13Mp, LED flash	20Mp
Video recording	4K	4K	4K	4K	4K
Cellular connectivity	4G	4G	4G	4G	4G
SIM type	Nano-SIM	Nano-SIM	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM	Nano-SIM
Dual-SIM as standard	No	No	No	No	No
Wi-Fi	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band
Bluetooth	Bluetooth 4.1	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.1	Bluetooth 4.0 (aptX)	Bluetooth 4.1 (aptX)
GPS	GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass
NFC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
USB OTG	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Extra features	Heart-rate sensor, fingerprint scanner	Waterproof, PS4 Remote Play	24-bit/192kHz audio, rear key	24-bit/192kHz audio, rear key	BoomSound speakers
Geekbench 3.0 (single)	1347	Not tested	Not tested	Not tested	1160
Geekbench 3.0 (multi)	4438	2800	3513	2465	3378
SunSpider	1048ms	944ms	715ms	959ms	867ms
GFXBench: T-Rex	30fps	41fps	25fps	20fps	50fps
GFXBench: Manhattan	14fps	26fps	9fps	Not tested	24fps
Battery	2550mAh, non-removable	2600mAh, non-removable	3000mAh removable	3000mAh, removable, Qi	2840mAh, non-removable
Dimensions	143.4x70.5x6.8mm	64.9x127x8.6mm	64.9x127x8.6mm	75x146x8.9mm	70x145x9.7mm
Weight	138g	129g	155g	149g	157g
Warranty	1 year	2 years	1 year	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/PC2KOVO">TINYURL.COM/PC2KOVO</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/NBBUY82">TINYURL.COM/NBBUY82</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/NBBUY82">TINYURL.COM/NBBUY82</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/OA76T73">TINYURL.COM/OA76T73</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/PUS2XEJ">TINYURL.COM/PUS2XEJ</a>



Best budget smartphones	    				
	1 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	2	3	4 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	5 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED
	Motorola Moto E 4G 2015	Vodafone Smart Prime 6	EE Harrier Mini	Motorola Moto G 3G 2014	Motorola Moto G 4G 2014
Price	£109 inc VAT	£79 inc VAT	£99 inc VAT	£140 inc VAT	£117 inc VAT
Website	Motorola.co.uk	Vodafone.co.uk	EE.co.uk	Motorola.co.uk	Motorola.co.uk
Launch date	Feb 15	June 15	June 15	Sep 14	May 14
Build rating	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★★
Features rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Performance rating	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Value rating	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★★
Overall rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
OS (out of box)	Android 5.0 Lollipop	Android 5.0.2 Lollipop	Android 5.0 Lollipop	Android 4.4 KitKat	Android 4.4 KitKat
Processor	1.2GHz Snapdragon 410	1.2GHz Snapdragon 410	1.2GHz	1.2GHz Snapdragon 400	1.2GHz Snapdragon 400
RAM	1GB	1GB	1GB	1GB	1GB
Storage	8GB	8GB	8GB	8GB	8GB
MicroSD support	Up to 32GB	Up to 64GB	Not stated	Up to 32GB	Up to 32GB
Graphics	Adreno 306	Adreno 306	Not stated	Adreno 305	Adreno 305
Screen size	4.5in	5in	4.7in	5in	4.5in
Screen resolution	540x960	720x1280	720x1280	720x1280	720x1280
Pixel density	245ppi	294ppi	312ppi	294ppi	326ppi
Screen technology	IPS	IPS	IPS	IPS	IPS
Front camera	0.3Mp	2Mp	2Mp	2Mp	1.3Mp
Rear camera	5Mp	8Mp	8Mp, LED flash	8Mp, LED flash	5Mp, LED flash
Video recording	720p	1080p	720p	720p	720p
Cellular connectivity	4G	4G	4G	3G	4G
SIM type	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM
Dual-SIM as standard	No	No	No	Yes	No
Wi-Fi	802.11b/g/n	802.11b/g/n	802.11b/g/n	802.11b/g/n	802.11b/g/n
Bluetooth	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0
GPS	GPS, A-GPS, Glonass	A-GPS	A-GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass
NFC	No	No	No	No	No
USB OTG	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Extra features	Double-twist launches camera, lockscreen alerts	FM radio	Wi-Fi calling	Stereo speakers	None
Geekbench 3.0 (single)	464	464	Not tested	340	334
Geekbench 3.0 (multi)	1463	1401	1549	1144	1168
SunSpider	130fms	130fms	1880ms	1526ms	1504ms
GFXBench: T-Rex	13fps	9.4fps	10fps	11fps	11fps
GFXBench: Manhattan	6fps	3.8fps	4fps	4fps	Not tested
Battery	2390mAh, non-removable	N/S, non-removable	2000mAh, non-removable	2390mAh, non-removable	2070mAh, non-removable
Dimensions	66.8x5.2x12.3x129.9mm	141.65x71.89x9mm	138x67.9x9.5mm	71x142x11mm	66x130x11.6mm
Weight	145g	155g	124g	155g	143g
Warranty	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/0709NXR">TINYURL.COM/0709NXR</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/Q5DSNHE">TINYURL.COM/Q5DSNHE</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/PXTROH4">TINYURL.COM/PXTROH4</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/OAE6AH5">TINYURL.COM/OAE6AH5</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/ONOLUT7">TINYURL.COM/ONOLUT7</a>

## Best phablets








	<b>1</b> <b>PC ADVISOR</b> RECOMMENDED	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>PC ADVISOR</b> GOLD	<b>4</b> <b>PC ADVISOR</b> GOLD	<b>5</b>
	Samsung Galaxy Note 4	LG G4	LG G3	OnePlus One	Google Nexus 6
Price	£599 inc VAT	£500 inc VAT	£479 inc VAT	£229 inc VAT	£499 inc VAT
Website	Samsung.com/uk	Lg.com/uk	Lg.com/uk	Oneplus.net	Play.google.com
Launch date	Sep 14	May 15	May 14	Jul 14	Oct 14
Build rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Features rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Performance rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Value rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★☆
Overall rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★☆
OS (out of box)	Android 4.4 KitKat	Android 5.1 Lollipop	Android 4.4 KitKat	Cyanogen 11S (Android 4.4)	Android 5.0 Lollipop
Processor	2.7GHz Snapdragon 805	1.82GHz Snapdragon 808	2.5GHz Snapdragon 801	2.5GHz Snapdragon 801	2.7GHz Snapdragon 805
RAM	3GB	3GB	2GB/3GB	3GB	3GB
Storage	32GB	32GB	16GB/32GB	16GB/64GB	32GB/64GB
MicroSD support	Up to 128GB	Up to 128GB	No	No	No
Graphics	Adreno 420	Adreno 418	Adreno 330	Adreno 330	Adreno 420
Screen size	5.7in	5.5in	5.5in	5.5in	5.96in
Screen resolution	1440x2560	1440x2560	1440x2560	1920x1080	1440x2560
Pixel density	515ppi	538ppi	534ppi	401ppi	493ppi
Screen technology	Super AMOLED	IPS	IPS	IPS	IPS
Front camera	3.7Mp	8Mp	2Mp	5Mp	2Mp
Rear camera	16Mp, LED flash	16Mp, LED flash	13Mp, LED flash	13Mp, LED flash	13Mp, LED flash
Video recording	4K	4K	4K	4K	4K
Cellular connectivity	4G	4G	4G	4G	4G
SIM type	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM	Micro-SIM	Nano-SIM
Dual-SIM as standard	No	No	No	No	No
Wi-Fi	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band
Bluetooth	Bluetooth 4.1	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0 (aptX)	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.1
GPS	GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass
NFC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
USB OTG	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Extra features	Fingerprint, UV, heart-rate sensors, S Pen stylus	24bit/192kHz audio, rear key, IR blaster	24bit/192kHz audio, rear key	None	None
Geekbench 3.0 (single)	Not tested	Not tested	Not tested	969	Not tested
Geekbench 3.0 (multi)	3272	3513	2465	2570	3304
SunSpider	1367ms	715ms	959ms	877ms	791ms
GFXBench: T-Rex	27fps	25fps	20fps	29fps	27fps
GFXBench: Manhattan	11fps	9fps	Not tested	Not tested	12fps
Battery	3220mAh, removable	3000mAh, removable, Qi	3000mAh, removable, Qi	3100mAh, non-removable	3220mAh, non-removable, Qi
Dimensions	78.6x153.5x8.5mm	76x149x6.3-9.8mm	75x146x8.9mm	75.9x152.9x8.9mm	82x159x10.4mm
Weight	176g	155g	149g	162g	183g
Warranty	2 years	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/PNHJCZ4">TINYURL.COM/PNHJCZ4</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/ODGU48T">TINYURL.COM/ODGU48T</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/OA76T73">TINYURL.COM/OA76T73</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/PK355CP">TINYURL.COM/PK355CP</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/NLZ4UD9">TINYURL.COM/NLZ4UD9</a>






Best 7- & 8in tablets		1	2	3	4	5
		Google Nexus 7	Samsung Galaxy Tab S 8.4	Sony Xperia Z3 Tablet Compact	Apple iPad mini 2	Google Nexus 9
Price		£199 inc VAT	£319 inc VAT	£299 inc VAT	£239 inc VAT	£319 inc VAT
Website		Play.google.com	Samsung.com/uk	Sony.co.uk	Apple.com/uk	Play.google.com
Launch date		Aug 13	Aug 14	Sep 14	Oct 13	Oct 14
Build rating		★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Features rating		★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Performance rating		★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Value rating		★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Overall rating		★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
OS (out of box)		Android 4.3 Jelly Bean	Android 4.4 KitKat	Android 4.4 KitKat	iOS 8.2	Android 5.0 Lollipop
Processor		1.5GHz Snapdragon S4 Pro	Exynos 5420, octa-core	2.5GHz Snapdragon 801	Apple A7, Apple M7	2.3GHz nVidia Tegra K1
RAM		2GB	3GB	3GB	1GB	2GB
Storage		16GB/32GB	16GB/32GB	16GB/32GB	16GB/32GB	16GB/32GB
MicroSD support		No	Up to 128GB	Up to 128GB	No	No
Graphics		Adreno 320	ARM Mali-T628 MP6	Adreno 330	Apple A7	192-core Kepler
Screen size		7in	8.4in	8in	7.9in	8.9in
Screen resolution		1920x1200	2560x1440	1920x1200	2048x1536	2048x1536
Pixel density		323ppi	359ppi	283ppi	326ppi	287ppi
Screen technology		IPS	Super AMOLED	IPS	IPS	IPS
Front camera		1.2Mp	2.1Mp	2.2Mp	1.2Mp	1.6Mp
Rear camera		5Mp	8Mp, LED flash	8.1Mp	5Mp	8Mp, LED flash
Video recording		1080p	1080p	1080p	1080p	1080p
Cellular connectivity		4G version available	4G version available	4G version available	4G version available	4G version available
Wi-Fi		802.11b/g/n, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band
Bluetooth		Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.1
GPS		GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass
NFC		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
USB OTG		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Fingerprint scanner		No	Yes	No	No	No
Waterproof		No	No	Yes	No	No
Extra features		None	Stereo speakers	PS4 Remote Play, stereo speakers	None	BoomSound speakers
Geekbench 3.0 (single)		Not tested	Not tested	Not tested	Not tested	1904
Geekbench 3.0 (multi)		Not tested	2765	2708	Not tested	3352
SunSpider		1136ms	1089ms	1017ms	397ms	955ms
GFXBench: T-Rex		Not tested	14fps	28fps	Not tested	48fps
GFXBench: Manhattan		Not tested	3fps	11fps	Not tested	22fps
Battery		3950mAh, non-removable, Qi	4900mAh, non-removable	4500mAh, non-removable	6470mAh, non-removable	6700mAh, non-removable
Dimensions		200x114x8.65mm	126x213x6.6mm	213x124x6.4mm	134.7x7.5x200mm	153.7x228.3x8mm
Weight		299g	294g	270g	331g	425g
Warranty		1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW		<a href="http://tinyurl.com/PUJDJBY">TINYURL.COM/PUJDJBY</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/OUEM64Z">TINYURL.COM/OUEM64Z</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/NJ6VHEO">TINYURL.COM/NJ6VHEO</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/PCJPB5L">TINYURL.COM/PCJPB5L</a>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/NQ6K77Y">TINYURL.COM/NQ6K77Y</a>

## Best 9- & 10in tablets



	1 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	2 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	3 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	4 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	5 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED
	Apple iPad Air 2	Samsung Galaxy Tab S10.5	Sony Xperia Z2 Tablet	Apple iPad Air	Google Nexus 10
Price	£399 inc VAT	£399 inc VAT	£369 inc VAT	£319 inc VAT	£389 inc VAT
Website	Apple.com/uk	Samsung.com/uk	Sony.co.uk	Apple.com/uk	Play.google.com
Launch date	Oct 14	Aug 14	Mar 14	Oct 13	Oct 12
Build rating	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Features rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Performance rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Value rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Overall rating	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
OS (out of box)	iOS 8.2	Android 4.4 KitKat	Android 4.4 KitKat	iOS 8.2	Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
Processor	Apple A8X, Apple M8	Exynos 5420, octa-core	2.3GHz Snapdragon 801	Apple A7, Apple M7	1.7GHz Exynos 5250
RAM	2GB	3GB	3GB	1GB	2GB
Storage	16GB/64GB/128GB	16GB/32GB	16GB	16GB/32GB	16GB/32GB
MicroSD support	No	Up to 128GB	Up to 64GB	No	No
Graphics	Apple A8X	ARM Mali-T628 MP6	Adreno 330	Apple A7	ARM Mali T604
Screen size	9.7in	10.5in	10.1in	9.7in	10.1in
Screen resolution	2048x1536	2560x1600	1920x1200	2048x1536	2560x1600
Pixel density	264ppi	288ppi	224ppi	264ppi	300ppi
Screen technology	IPS	Super AMOLED	IPS	IPS	IPS
Front camera	1.2Mp	2.1Mp	2.2Mp	1.2Mp	1.9Mp
Rear camera	8Mp	8Mp, LED flash	8.1Mp	5Mp	5Mp, LED flash
Video recording	1080p	1080p	1080p	1080p	1080p
Cellular connectivity	4G version available	4G version available	4G version available	4G version available	No
Wi-Fi	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band	802.11a/b/g/n, dual-band	802.11b/g/n, dual-band
Bluetooth	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0	Bluetooth 4.0
GPS	A-GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass	A-GPS, Glonass	GPS, Glonass
NFC	Yes (for Apple Pay)	No	Yes	No	Yes
USB OTG	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Fingerprint scanner	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Waterproof	No	No	Yes	No	No
Extra features	None	Stereo speakers	PlayStation certified	None	None
Geekbench 3.0 (single)	1816	Not tested	967	1487	Not tested
Geekbench 3.0 (multi)	4523	2769	2719	2703	Not tested
SunSpider	Not tested	1079ms	1099ms	400ms	1329ms
GFXBench: T-Rex	48fps	14fps	27fps	23fps	Not tested
GFXBench: Manhattan	Not tested	3fps	Not tested	Not tested	Not tested
Battery	7340mAh, non-removable	7900mAh, non-removable	6000mAh, non-removable	8600mAh, non-removable	9000mAh, non-removable
Dimensions	240x169.5x6.1mm	247x177x6.6mm	266x172x6.4mm	240x169x7.5mm	264x178x8.9mm
Weight	437g	465g	439g	469g	603g
Warranty	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/PLQXWSZ">TINYURL.COM/PLQXWSZ</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/OESDFZO">TINYURL.COM/OESDFZO</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/M8BZZUN">TINYURL.COM/M8BZZUN</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/NVOOF6H">TINYURL.COM/NVOOF6H</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/PUAG9RN">TINYURL.COM/PUAG9RN</a>

Best smartwatches	1	2	3	4	5
	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED
	LG G Watch R	Motorola Moto 360	Sony Smartwatch 3	LG Watch Urbane	Asus ZenWatch
Price	£195 inc VAT	£199 inc VAT	£189 inc VAT	£259 inc VAT	£199 inc VAT
Website	Lg.com/uk	Motorola.co.uk	Sony.co.uk	Lg.com/uk	Uk.asus.com
Launch date	Nov 14	Oct 14	Sep 14	Jul 15	Jan 15
Overall rating	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
Operating system	Android Wear	Android Wear	Android Wear	Android Wear	Android Wear
Compatibility	Android	Android	Android	Android	Android
Display	1.3in 320x320 P-OLED	1.56in 290x320 LCD	1.6in 320x320 LCD	1.3in 320x320 P-OLED	1.6in 320x320 AMOLED
Processor	1.2GHz Snapdragon 400	TI OMAP 3	1.2GHz ARM V7	1.2GHz Snapdragon 400	1.2GHz Snapdragon 400
RAM	512MB	512MB	512MB	512MB	512MB
Storage	4GB	4GB	4GB	4GB	4GB
Waterproof	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Battery	410mAh	320mAh	420mAh	410mAh	1.4Wh
Dimensions	46.4x53.6x9.7mm	46x11.5mm	36x51x10mm	46x52x10.9mm	51x39.9x7.9-9.4mm
Weight	62g	49g (leather band model)	45g	67g	75g
Warranty	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW	TINYURL.COM/QATY8FT	TINYURL.COM/O9C69K6	TINYURL.COM/OQVZ3PN	TINYURL.COM/Q3VK7ES	TINYURL.COM/NN7GA7W

Best smartwatches	6	7	8	9	10
	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED	 PC ADVISOR RECOMMENDED
	Apple Watch	Pebble Steel	LG G Watch	Sony Smartwatch 2	Samsung Gear 2 Neo
Price	£299 inc VAT	£179 inc VAT	£159 inc VAT	£125 inc VAT	£169 inc VAT
Website	Apple.com/uk	Getpebble.com	Lg.com/uk	Sony.co.uk	Samsung.com/uk
Launch date	Apr 15	Sep 14	Jul 14	Jun 13	Apr 14
Overall rating	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
Operating system	watchOS	Proprietary	Android Wear	Proprietary	Tizen
Compatibility	iOS	iOS, Android	Android	Android	Samsung phones
Display	1.32in 340x312 Ion-X Glass	1.26in 144x168 E-Paper	1.65in 280x280 IPS	1.6in 220x176 LCD	1.6in 320x320 Super AMOLED
Processor	Apple S1	Not specified	1.2GHz Snapdragon 400	Not specified	Dual-core
RAM	512MB	512MB	512MB	Not specified	512MB
Storage	8GB	Not specified	4GB	Not specified	4GB
Waterproof	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Battery	Not specified	130mAh	400mAh	Not specified	300mAh
Dimensions	38.6x33.3x10.5mm	46x34x10.5mm	37.9x46.5x9.95mm	42x41x9mm	58.8x37.9x10mm
Weight	72g	156g	63g	123g	55g
Warranty	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW	TINYURL.COM/OUTH9XK	TINYURL.COM/PPBXV7J	TINYURL.COM/Q84WL6L	TINYURL.COM/P4X7AZM	TINYURL.COM/Q68F55U

## Best activity trackers



1

PC ADVISOR  
RECOMMENDED



2



3



4

PC ADVISOR  
RECOMMENDED



5

PC ADVISOR  
RECOMMENDED

	Fitbit Charge HR	Fitbit Surge	Fitbit One	Microsoft Band	Fitbit Charge
Price	£119 inc VAT	£199 inc VAT	£79 inc VAT	£169 inc VAT	£99 inc VAT
Website	Fitbit.com/uk	Fitbit.com/uk	Fitbit.com/uk	Microsoft.com/en-gb	Fitbit.com/uk
Launch date	Jan 15	Jan 15	Jan 14	May 15	Nov 14
Overall rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Compatibility	iOS, Android, Windows	iOS, Android, Windows	iOS, Android	iOS, Android, Windows	iOS, Android, Windows
Display	OLED	Touchscreen	OLED	TFT	OLED
Pedometer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Heart-rate monitor	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Sleep tracking	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alarm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Third-party app syncing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Call notifications	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Waterproof	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Battery life	5+ days	5 days	10-14 days	2 days	7-10 days
Dimensions, weight	21.1mm, 26g	34mm, 51g	35.5x28x9.65mm, 8g	11x33mm, 60g	21.1mm, 24g
FULL REVIEW	TINYURL.COM/PCKV4SU	TINYURL.COM/OB3DR47	TINYURL.COM/PT2TC6F	TINYURL.COM/LHMQ2AC	TINYURL.COM/PFMQ9KH

## Best activity trackers



6



7

PC ADVISOR  
RECOMMENDED



8













9











PC ADVISOR  
RECOMMENDED



10

	Basis Peak	Xiaomi Mi Band	Jawbone Up 2	Jawbone Up Move	Jawbone Up24
Price	£169 inc VAT	£29 inc VAT	£89 inc VAT	£39 inc VAT	£99 inc VAT
Website	En-gb.mybasis.com	Mobilefun.co.uk	Jawbone.com	Jawbone.com	Jawbone.com
Launch date	Apr 15	Feb 15	June 15	Nov 14	Mar 14
Overall rating	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Compatibility	iOS, Android	iOS, Android	iOS, Android	iOS, Android	iOS, Android
Display	E-Ink	No	No	No	No
Pedometer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Heart-rate monitor	Yes	No	No	No	No
Sleep tracking	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alarm	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Third-party app syncing	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Call notifications	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Waterproof	Yes	Yes	Splashproof	Splashproof	Splashproof
Battery life	4 days	30 days	7 days	Six months, non-rechargeable	7 days
Dimensions, weight	33x43x10mm, 51g	157x205mm, 13g	220x11.5x3-8.5mm, 25g	27.6x27.6x9.8mm, 6.8g	S: 19g, M: 22g, L: 23g
FULL REVIEW	TINYURL.COM/LHMQ2AC	TINYURL.COM/QZ3YVCR	TINYURL.COM/PHT98ZK	TINYURL.COM/PFXQFNE	TINYURL.COM/ND8YMB8

Best power banks					
	1 	2 	3 	4 	5 
	Zendure A2 (2nd gen)	Xiaomi 10,000mAh	iHarbot Power Bank MS024	Anker Astro Mini	Intocircuit Power Castle
Price	£25 inc VAT	£11 inc VAT	£7.50 inc VAT	£13 inc VAT	£22 inc VAT
Website	Zendure.com	mi.com/en	Amazon.co.uk	lanker.com	Hisgadget.com
Launch date	Aug 15	May 15	Jun 15	Apr 13	Mar 13
Overall rating	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
Capacity	6400mAh	10,000mAh	5000mAh	3200mAh	11200mAh
Input	1x 7.5W Micro-USB	1x 10W Micro-USB	1x 10.5W Micro-USB	1x 4W Micro-USB	1x 5W Micro-USB
Outputs	1x 10.5W USB	1x 10.5W USB	1x 10W USB	1x 5W USB	1x 10.5W USB, 1x 5W USB
Auto-on/-off	Yes	Yes	Auto-on	No	Auto-on
Passthrough charging	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Status indicator	4 LEDs	4 LEDs	4 LEDs	No	LCD screen
LED flashlight	No	No	No	No	Yes
Carry case	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Dimensions	93x48x23mm	91x60.4x22mm	118x11.6x63mm	92x23x23mm	110x71x22mm
Weight	137g	207g	150g	80g	280g
Warranty	1 year	1 year	18 months	18 months	1 year
FULL REVIEW	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/NGCNOSF">TINYURL.COM/NGCNOSF</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/NFQZOCB">TINYURL.COM/NFQZOCB</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/PVQZLEC">TINYURL.COM/PVQZLEC</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/PZHUHJO">TINYURL.COM/PZHUHJO</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/PSM9NKE">TINYURL.COM/PSM9NKE</a>

Best desktop chargers					
	1 	2 	3 	4 	5 
	iClever USB Travel Charger	Zendure Turbo Charger	Olixar Smart IC Charger	Inateck USB Charger	Lumsing 5-Port Charger
Price	£20 inc VAT	£25 inc VAT	£34 inc VAT	£15 inc VAT	£8 inc VAT
Website	Hisgadget.com	Zendure.com	Mobilefun.co.uk	Inateck.com	Lumsing.com
Launch date	Oct 14	May 14	Feb 15	Feb 14	Apr 14
Overall rating	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★
Max output	50W	40W	50W	35W	30W
Outputs:					
USB 1	12W USB	12W USB	12.5W USB	10.5W USB	10W USB
USB 2	12W USB	12W USB	12.5W USB	10.5W USB	10W USB
USB 3	12W USB	12W USB	12.5W USB	5W USB	10W USB
USB 4	12W USB	12W USB	12.5W USB	5W USB	5W USB
USB 5	12W USB	12W USB	12.5W USB	5W USB	5W USB
USB 6	12W USB	N/A	12.5W USB	N/A	N/A
Colours available	Black	Black, white	White	Black	Black
Dimensions	100x69x27mm	97x60x27mm	100x69x26mm	100x55x20mm	136x68x30mm
Weight	180g	166g	189g	340g	422g
Warranty	1 year	1 year	2 years	1 year	1 year
FULL REVIEW	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/MPA4DWC">TINYURL.COM/MPA4DWC</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/NKYNJTP">TINYURL.COM/NKYNJTP</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/OCZYK93">TINYURL.COM/OCZYK93</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/KBXUHF">TINYURL.COM/KBXUHF</a>	<a href="http://TINYURL.COM/LK22OGY">TINYURL.COM/LK22OGY</a>



